



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

Distr.: General
13 November 2014

Original: English

Report of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime on its seventh session, held in Vienna from 6 to 10 October 2014

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I. Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Conference

A. Resolutions

1. At its seventh session, held in Vienna from 6 to 10 October 2014, the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime adopted the following resolutions:

Resolution 7/1

Strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

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

Recalling that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto¹ represent the principal worldwide legal instruments to combat the scourge of transnational organized crime, which affects individuals and societies in all countries, and reaffirming their importance as the main tools available to the international community for this purpose,

Recognizing that the Convention and the Protocols thereto offer expanded opportunities for international cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime, and convinced that in this regard the potential of these instruments is yet to be fully developed,

Reaffirming that the purpose of the Convention and the Protocols thereto is, inter alia, to promote cooperation to prevent and combat transnational organized crime more effectively, and stressing the need to take additional concerted action to reinforce the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto by States parties and to identify related technical assistance needs,

Recalling article 32 of the Convention, Conference resolution 5/1 of 22 October 2010 and General Assembly resolution 68/193 of 18 December 2013, in which, inter alia, the need for the establishment of a mechanism for the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto by States parties was reiterated,

Recalling also its resolutions 5/5 of 22 October 2010 and 6/1 of 19 October 2012, as well as its decision 4/1 of 17 October 2008,

Recalling further its decisions 1/2 of 7 July 2004, 2/1 of 20 October 2005, 2/2 and 2/6 of 19 October 2005, 3/2 of 18 October 2006 and 4/3 and 4/4 of 17 October 2008 and its resolutions 5/3 and 5/4 of 22 October 2010, and emphasizing the usefulness of the existing working groups to advise and assist the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of its mandate, with regard to the Convention as a whole and the Protocols thereto,

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

Recalling articles 29 and 30 of the Convention, and stressing the connections between the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and the technical assistance programmes provided to requesting States parties with a view to combating transnational organized crime,

Welcoming the role and contributions of signatories, non-signatories, relevant intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in the Conference,

Welcoming also the important role of civil society in assisting national authorities in preventing and combating transnational organized crime, thus promoting the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, including by facilitating the provision of technical assistance as well as assistance to those affected by organized crime, in particular trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants,

Welcoming with appreciation recent accessions to and ratifications of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

Noting with appreciation the awareness-raising and dissemination activities and the legislative assistance undertaken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in support of the ratification and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

1. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto¹ and to effectively implement their provisions;

2. *Urges* States parties to the Convention and the Protocols thereto that have not yet done so to harmonize their national legislation in a manner consistent with their obligations thereunder;

3. *Underlines* that the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto is an ongoing and gradual process and that it is necessary to explore all options regarding an appropriate and effective mechanism to assist the Conference in that review;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to convene, within existing resources from the regular budget and without prejudice to other mandated activities, at least one open-ended intergovernmental meeting, with interpretation, to include government officials with practical expertise related to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, with a view to analysing the above-mentioned options and submissions by States parties, and to submit to the Conference at its eighth session a report containing concrete recommendations for reviewing, through a possible mechanism or mechanisms, the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and recommendations for cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations, in line with article 32 of the Convention and as guided by the principles and characteristics contained in its resolution 5/5;

5. *Requests* States parties, and invites other interested Member States, on a voluntary basis, to submit to the Secretariat their comments and views for the purpose of deliberations at the above-mentioned meetings;

6. *Decides* that the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons, the Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants and the Working Group on Firearms will be constant elements of the Conference of the Parties, forwarding their reports and recommendations to the Conference, and encourages those working groups and the Working Group on International Cooperation and the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance to consider meeting on an annual basis, as needed, and to hold their meetings consecutively, in order to ensure the effective use of resources;

7. *Also decides* that the working groups shall continue to analyse, in a comprehensive manner, the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, making the best use of the information gathered through the comprehensive self-assessment software (“omnibus survey software”) and other tools that have been developed and compiled so far by the Secretariat, in full respect of the principle of multilingualism;

8. *Reiterates* its call for States parties, in accordance with article 32 of the Convention, to provide information and, in this regard, invites them and other interested Member States, on a voluntary basis, to submit to the Secretariat, through the omnibus survey software, information on their programmes, plans and practices, in a concise and focused manner, as well as on the legislative and administrative measures taken to implement the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

9. *Invites* States parties and, on a voluntary basis, other interested Member States, to provide information on the relevant legislative tools to be included in the knowledge management portal known as Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime;

10. *Encourages* all States parties, where applicable, to identify and prioritize technical assistance needs in their responses to the comprehensive self-assessment checklist and also on the basis of the needs assessment tools developed by the Secretariat;

11. *Invites* States parties to prepare their responses to the comprehensive self-assessment checklist through broad consultations at the national level with all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, individuals and groups outside the public sector;

12. *Requests* the working groups to continue to identify good practices in and challenges and technical assistance needs for the effective implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

13. *Decides* to continue to include in its agenda an item on the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto that will, inter alia, allow States parties, and other interested Member States, to take stock of the activities of the working groups and to assess their functioning and effectiveness, including cost-effectiveness;

14. *Calls upon* each State party to designate a focal point for the purpose of communicating with the Secretariat in compliance with paragraphs 4 and 5 of article 32 of the Convention and on the implementation of the Protocols to the Convention and to provide the Secretariat with the contact details of that focal point, and invites other interested Member States, on a voluntary basis, to provide

the details of their focal points to the Secretariat for discussing the matters addressed in paragraphs 4 and 5 of article 32;

15. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue assisting the working groups in the performance of their functions;

16. *Also requests* the Secretariat to prepare, within existing resources, a report for the working groups, setting out specific efficiency and cost-saving measures that the Conference of the Parties may consider adopting;

17. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Conference at its eighth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

Resolution 7/2

Importance of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

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

Recalling the functions assigned to it in article 32 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,² and reaffirming its decision 4/6 of 17 October 2008,

Expressing its concern at the increased levels of harm and violence that transnational organized criminal groups generate in some regions of the world as a result of the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition,

Noting that reducing the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition is one of the major components of the efforts to reduce the violence that accompanies the activities of transnational organized criminal groups,

Expressing its conviction that there is a need to strengthen international cooperation and the sharing of information to combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition,

Recalling that the Convention and, in particular, the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,³ are among the principal global legal instruments to combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition,

Noting with appreciation the increasing number of accessions to and ratifications of the Firearms Protocol,

² Ibid., vol. 2225, No. 39574.

³ Ibid., vol. 2326, No. 39574.

Noting the common themes and nature of other instruments with respect to the Convention and its Firearms Protocol, such as the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects⁴ and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,⁵ as well as regional legal instruments,

Noting also that the Arms Trade Treaty will enter into force on 24 December 2014 as the first international legally binding instrument on the trade in conventional arms,

Considering the recent efforts undertaken at both the multilateral and regional levels to strengthen the prevention of and combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, for the benefit of citizens,

Recognizing the work carried out by the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals in promoting a significant reduction in illicit financial and illicit arms flows,

Noting with appreciation the assistance provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to States, upon request, through its Global Programme on Firearms,

Noting the activities carried out by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime regarding awareness-raising on, dissemination of and support for national legislation, aimed at supporting the ratification of the Organized Crime Convention and its Firearms Protocol,

Noting also that the Firearms Protocol recognizes verifiable lawful purposes, such as hunting, sport shooting, evaluation, exhibitions or repairs, reaffirming the obligation of States parties to seek support and cooperate to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and acknowledging that this cooperation is facilitated through the recognition of such lawful purposes,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the Working Group on Firearms at its second meeting, held in Vienna from 26 to 28 May 2014, and takes note of the recommendations contained in its report;⁶

2. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,⁷ and to fully implement its provisions;

3. *Urges* States parties to the Firearms Protocol to harmonize their national legislation in a manner consistent with the Protocol, develop action plans to implement the Protocol, provide to the Secretariat full and up-to-date information

⁴ *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects*, New York, 9-20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

⁵ A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex; see also General Assembly decision 60/519.

⁶ CTOC/COP/WG.6/2014/4.

⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

on their national body or single point of contact and make use of the online directory of competent national authorities designated by States under the Protocol;

4. *Encourages* States parties to use, where appropriate, the tools developed to assist in the implementation of the Firearms Protocol, especially the *Legislative Guides for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto*⁸ and the *Model Law against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition*,⁹ developed in conjunction with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

5. *Stresses* the importance of States parties adopting adequate legislative frameworks, including appropriate provisions in the fields of criminalization, the broadening of technical capacities and the training of personnel responsible for criminal investigations related to illicit trafficking in firearms and related forms of transnational organized crime;

6. *Encourages* relevant international and regional organizations, the private sector and non-governmental organizations to strengthen their cooperation and work with States parties to the Firearms Protocol in order to achieve the full implementation of the Protocol;

7. *Urges* States parties to promote the exchange of good practices and experiences of practitioners who are involved in combating illicit trafficking in firearms and to consider the use of available tools, including marking and record-keeping technologies, to facilitate the tracing of firearms and, where possible, their parts and components and ammunition, in order to enhance criminal investigations into illicit trafficking in firearms, in accordance with their capabilities;

8. *Encourages* States parties to comprehensively trace firearms that have been or are suspected of having been connected with illicit manufacturing or trafficking, including through international cooperation;

9. *Invites* States parties to promote the regular exchange of experiences with different methods and materials used in craft manufacturing, such as home-made firearms, and with tools to combat illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition;

10. *Encourages* States parties to develop or strengthen coordination among relevant and competent national authorities, with a view to enhancing capacities for statistics and data collection, analysis and information-sharing related to illicit trafficking in firearms;

11. *Invites* States parties to begin or to continue capacity-building and training activities for law enforcement, judicial and customs authorities on the identification and tracing of firearms;

12. *Takes note with appreciation* of the study of the transnational nature of and routes used in trafficking in firearms carried out by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in accordance with the mandate given in Conference

⁸ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.V.

⁹ Ibid., Sales No. E.11.V.9.

resolutions 5/4 of 22 October 2010 and 6/2 of 19 October 2012, and requests the Office to finalize and disseminate the study;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, through its Global Programme on Firearms, to continue to assist requesting States in their efforts to ratify or accede to and implement the Firearms Protocol;

14. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue gathering information from States parties on illicit trafficking in firearms on a regular basis, and directs the Working Group on Firearms to consider the outcomes of the study, with a view to making recommendations to the Conference, at its eighth session, on the future of the study, including, but not limited to, whether the study should be repeated and/or updated and improved upon;

15. *Encourages* States parties and other Member States, on a voluntary basis, including through the Working Group on Firearms, to present their views and comments on the implementation of the Firearms Protocol, including those relating to factors that may impede accession, ratification or implementation, as well as on good practices and the progress made in implementing the Protocol, with a view to achieving closer cooperation on preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition;

16. *Decides* that the Working Group should continue to perform the functions set forth in Conference resolution 5/4 and that it should hold at least one intersessional meeting prior to the eighth session of the Conference;

17. *Requests* the Working Group to continue advising and assisting the Conference in the fulfilment of its mandate with regard to the Firearms Protocol in accordance with that resolution, and invites the Working Group to consider practical proposals for implementing the recommendations formulated at its meeting held from 26 to 28 May 2014;

18. *Requests* the Secretariat to inform the Working Group about (a) the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist the Conference in promoting and supporting the implementation of the Firearms Protocol, (b) coordination with other relevant international and regional organizations, (c) best practices in the areas of training and capacity-building and (d) awareness-raising strategies to prevent and combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition;

19. *Also requests* the Secretariat to support the Working Group in the performance of its functions;

20. *Invites* States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

21. *Decides* that the Secretariat shall provide to the Conference at its eighth session a report on the meeting of the Working Group to be held prior to the eighth session of the Conference.

Resolution 7/3**Implementation of the provisions on technical assistance of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime**

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

Noting that technical assistance is a fundamental part of the work carried out by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,¹⁰

Welcoming the work of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations adopted by the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance at its meeting held from 28 to 30 October 2013, which are contained in annex I to the present resolution;
2. *Also endorses* the recommendations adopted by the Working Group at its meeting held on 6 and 7 October 2014, during the seventh session of the Conference, which are contained in annex II to the present resolution;
3. *Reaffirms* its decision 4/3 of 17 October 2008, in which it decided that the Working Group should be a constant element of the Conference.

Annex I**Recommendations adopted by the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance at its meeting held from 28 to 30 October 2013**

1. The Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance recommended that the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, at its seventh session, should consider initiating discussions regarding the possibility of the Working Group developing and following a multi-year workplan for its future meetings.
2. The Working Group also adopted the recommendations presented below.

A. Assistance, good practices and the comparison of national legislation in the area of identifying and protecting victims of and witnesses to organized crime

3. States should share best practices in implementing, in addition to articles 24 and 25 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,¹¹ article 26, in particular the provisions of that article on providing for the possibility of mitigating punishment of an accused person who cooperates in the investigation

¹⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

of an offence covered by the Convention and granting immunity from prosecution to a person providing cooperation in the investigation of an offence covered by the Convention.

4. States should consider strengthening in-court and procedural protection measures.
5. States should consider setting up special facilities for recording the testimony of vulnerable witnesses such as children.
6. States should provide the possibility for vulnerable witnesses to be supported before and during proceedings and to be accompanied by persons trained in assisting victims and witnesses within prosecutors' offices, as appropriate.
7. States should consider placing within prosecutors' offices, as appropriate, persons trained in assisting victims and witnesses.
8. States should provide specialized training for law enforcement, prosecutors and judicial officials.
9. States should consider establishing standardized procedures for phased protection schemes, taking into account the risks faced by witnesses and victims in order to identify the appropriate protection measures, including video link testimony and other technical facilities for communication.
10. States should carry out threat assessments, as appropriate, to determine the level of risk to an individual witness or victim.
11. States should consider enacting legislation to regulate the protection of witnesses and should have the assistance of the model law on witness protection, created by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in 2008.
12. States should endeavour to expeditiously handle cases in which witnesses are receiving protection.
13. States should consider availing themselves of technical assistance made available by the Office on witness protection, including tools, study visits, legislative assistance and drafting and training for prosecutors, judges and law enforcement officers.
14. States should provide appropriate protection measures not only for victims, witnesses, informants and experts, but also for judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officials and other persons involved in criminal proceedings, as well as for their family members.
15. With the assistance of the Office and within existing resources, States should implement capacity-building programmes to educate relevant officials regarding the protection of victims and witnesses of organized crime, as well as whistle-blowers, and regarding witness protection schemes.
16. The Office should prepare a study on the institutionalization of witness protection programmes in Member States, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

B. Establishing capacity-building programmes for prosecutors, members of the judiciary and law enforcement agencies, including to enhance inter-agency cooperation and coordination

17. States should share good practices and experiences regarding ways to foster coordination and cooperation between national authorities with overlapping mandates.

18. States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and intergovernmental organizations should continuously seek to share information concerning technical assistance activities in order to better coordinate activities, with a view to enhancing synergy.

19. States, in coordination with the Office and within existing resources, should put in place training programmes that are tailored to the needs of the beneficiaries. In this regard, the use of case studies, mock trials and other practical exercises can be highly effective in providing training for certain officials; for others, round-table discussions may provide a more effective means of developing skills.

20. States should consider participating in and supporting the establishment of new and the strengthening of existing networks of central authorities, prosecutors and other criminal justice practitioners, which are facilitated by the Office in the framework of international judicial cooperation. Consideration should be given to strengthening cooperation and joint activities with the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network.

21. States should facilitate bilateral meetings and consultations of central authorities to discuss practical issues, including good practices and challenges.

22. The Office should, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, facilitate regional and international meetings of central authorities to discuss practical issues, including good practices and challenges.

23. While finalizing formal requests for mutual legal assistance, the States concerned should consider having informal consultations.

24. The Office should, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, assist States by preparing an issue paper on the criminal, civil or administrative liability of legal persons.

C. Assistance in harmonizing national legislation with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

25. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime should continue to provide coordinated technical assistance to States to ensure the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto.¹²

26. In its delivery of technical assistance, the Office should continue to apply the principles contained in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness: Ownership, Harmonization, Alignment, Results and Mutual Accountability, the Accra Agenda for Action¹³ and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation,

¹² Ibid., vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

¹³ A/63/539, annex.

without any prejudice to new developments agreed upon by the international community in that area.

27. The Office should expand the knowledge base on legislative and administrative measures to combat transnational organized crime, including by preparing, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, issue papers on provisions of the Convention.

28. States should consider using the comprehensive self-assessment software (“omnibus survey software”) as a self-assessment tool to assist the Conference in gathering information on the measures taken and in identifying the technical assistance needed to implement the Convention and the Protocols thereto.

29. The Office, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, should hold pre-ratification and self-assessment workshops for States, upon request, utilizing the omnibus survey software and other relevant technical assistance tools.

30. The Office, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, should continue the development of technical assistance tools, for the Convention and the Protocols thereto and on specialized issues, including mutual legal assistance and extradition. In particular, the Office should continue to work on the knowledge management portal known as Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime, building on the work accomplished in the development of the digest of organized crime cases.

31. States in need of technical assistance in implementing the Convention and the Protocols thereto are encouraged to request the Office to provide such technical assistance.

Annex II

Recommendations adopted by the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance at its meeting held on 6 and 7 October 2014

A. Criminalization of participation in an organized criminal group

1. States are encouraged to adopt a comprehensive approach to investigating and prosecuting participation in an organized criminal group, taking into consideration, as appropriate, information from all relevant stakeholders, including with regard to new forms and dimensions of organized crime.

2. States shall make participation in an organized criminal group liable to sanctions that take into account the gravity of that offence and should consider providing for higher penalties for more high-ranking members of organized criminal groups and for those who organize and direct the criminal activities.

3. States should consider requesting or providing training or assistance, as appropriate, to improve the capacity of law enforcement efforts to focus on those who direct and organize the commission of serious crimes, in order to dismantle organized criminal groups.

4. States should consider requesting or providing training or assistance, as appropriate, to improve the capacity of law enforcement authorities to use special investigative techniques.

B. Liability of legal persons

5. States should consider requesting or providing training or assistance, as appropriate, to ensure that legislation creating liability of legal persons does not preclude the criminal liability of natural persons who have committed the offences.

6. States should consider requesting or providing training or assistance, as appropriate, with regard to spontaneously and proactively sharing information with one another to facilitate holding legal persons liable, when relevant.

7. States should consider requesting or providing training or assistance, as appropriate, to define the concept of legal persons within their legal systems.

8. States parties and signatories are encouraged to provide to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime information on the liability of legal persons so that the Office may report to the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance at its next meeting, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

9. States should consider requesting or providing technical assistance, as appropriate, to review the types of sanctions imposed on legal persons, which are to be effective, proportionate and dissuasive.

C. Information-gathering under article 32, paragraph 5, of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

10. The Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance reiterates article 32, paragraph 5, of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,¹⁴ which requires each State party to provide the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime with information on its programmes, plans and practices, as well as legislative and administrative measures to implement the Convention.

11. The Office should continue to develop a knowledge base for assessing challenges in identifying good practices and needs for technical assistance in implementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,¹⁵ through analytical reports and updates to previous reports provided to the Conference, based on information provided by States parties and signatories.

12. The Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance may wish to include a standing item on its future agendas to consider the status of responses by States parties and signatories on implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto.

13. To support a systematic information-gathering effort in order to advance implementation of the Convention and the provision of technical assistance, the

¹⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance may wish to develop a multi-year workplan focused on considering the status of responses to requests for information by the Conference and the identification of technical assistance needs and good practices relating to the following articles:

- (a) Article 5, on criminalization of participation in an organized criminal group;
- (b) Article 6, on criminalization of the laundering of proceeds of crime;
- (c) Article 7, on measures to combat money-laundering;
- (d) Article 10, on liability of legal persons;
- (e) Article 23, on criminalization of obstruction of justice.

Consistent with article 29 of the Convention, States should consider measures to engage with and provide assistance to responding States, as requested, including through the Office, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Resolution 7/4

Implementation of the international cooperation provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

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

Recognizing the importance of international cooperation in efforts to combat all forms of transnational organized crime,

Recalling its decision 3/2 of 18 October 2006, in which it decided that an open-ended working group on international cooperation would be a constant element of the Conference,

Concerned that transnational organized crime has diversified globally, and that new and emerging forms require effective responses that depend upon strengthened international cooperation in criminal matters, including through the development of channels for timely cooperation,

Emphasizing the particular relevance of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹⁶ as a basis for international cooperation in extradition, mutual legal assistance and international cooperation for the purpose of confiscation, as well as for measures to enhance cooperation among law enforcement authorities,

Recalling that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2014/17 of 16 July 2014, recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a resolution on international cooperation in criminal matters,

Convinced that the establishment of bilateral and multilateral arrangements for mutual assistance in criminal matters can contribute to the development of more

¹⁶ Ibid., vol. 2225, No. 39574.

effective international cooperation to combat transnational crime, and mindful of the utility of the Organized Crime Convention both as a legal basis itself for international cooperation and for the interpretation and preparation of other bilateral and multilateral cooperation arrangements,

Convinced also that reports of practical use of the Organized Crime Convention as a legal basis for international cooperation demonstrate the importance and utility of the Convention as a valuable tool against transnational organized crime,

Welcoming the contribution made to effective international cooperation by regional networks of law enforcement authorities, judicial authorities and central authorities, including the Central American Network of Prosecutors against Organized Crime and the Network of West African Central Authorities and Prosecutors against Organized Crime,

Recognizing the importance of police cooperation and the exchange of information pursuant to article 27 of the Organized Crime Convention as an important foundation for building criminal prosecutions against crimes involving transnational organized criminal groups,

Recalling the provisions of the Organized Crime Convention concerning the designation of a central authority under article 18, paragraph 13, of the Convention, and acknowledging the importance of the coordinating role of a central authority for mutual legal assistance with respect to both domestic and international coordination in the receiving, execution and transmittal of mutual legal assistance requests,

Noting that international cooperation is a fundamental part of the work carried out by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support Member States in the effective implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto,¹⁷

Recalling its decision 2/2 of 19 October 2005, in which it requested the Secretariat to develop and maintain a directory of central authorities dealing with requests pertaining to mutual legal assistance, extradition and transfer of sentenced persons,

Acknowledging the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further strengthen international cooperation tools, including the directory of central authorities and the Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer Tool,

Anticipating the work of the forthcoming Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice relating to international cooperation, including at the regional level, to combat transnational organized crime,

Welcoming the work of the Working Group on International Cooperation,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations adopted by the Working Group on International Cooperation at its meeting held on 8 and 9 October 2014, during the seventh session of the Conference, annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Reaffirms* its decision 3/2, in which it decided that the Working Group should be a constant element of the Conference.

¹⁷ Ibid., vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

Annex

Recommendations adopted by the Working Group on International Cooperation at its meeting held on 8 and 9 October 2014

1. States should consider broadening the range of legal bases that they can rely on for law enforcement cooperation and judicial cooperation in criminal matters, including by considering concluding bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements that would serve the purposes of, give practical effect to or enhance international cooperation.
2. States should consider, when negotiating bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements with other States, making use of the Model Treaty on Extradition,¹⁸ the Model Treaty on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters,¹⁹ the Model Agreement on the Transfer of Foreign Prisoners,²⁰ the Model Bilateral Agreement on the Sharing of Confiscated Proceeds of Crime or Property²¹ and other relevant model instruments.
3. States parties that have not notified the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the central authority designated for the purposes of article 18, paragraph 13, of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime²² should aim to fulfil that obligation expeditiously.
4. States parties should consider strengthening the coordinating role of central authorities designated under article 18, paragraph 13, of the Organized Crime Convention, including through developing strong links and effective lines of communication, as well as mechanisms for consultation, with competent authorities involved in the execution of requests for mutual legal assistance.
5. States should support central authorities in developing systems for tracking the status of requests, including after such requests have been transferred to a competent authority for execution.
6. States should examine possibilities for central authorities to collect and disseminate statistical information on mutual legal assistance requests, including the nature of the assistance requested or provided and the legal basis for such cooperation.
7. States should encourage central authorities to make available clear guidance on their respective procedures and requirements for submission of mutual legal assistance requests.
8. States should seek, in appropriate cases, to consult informally prior to the formal submission of a request for extradition or mutual legal assistance.

¹⁸ General Assembly resolution 45/116, annex, and resolution 52/88, annex.

¹⁹ General Assembly resolution 45/117, annex, and resolution 53/112, annex I.

²⁰ *Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. D.1, annex I.

²¹ Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/14, annex.

²² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

9. States should consider ensuring that central authorities exercise quality control of requests, including with respect to translation and supporting documentation.
10. States parties should ensure that central authorities are aware of the requirement under article 18, paragraph 26, of the Organized Crime Convention to consult with a requesting State party prior to any refusal of a request for mutual legal assistance.
11. States should consult regularly with partners with which they have a substantial number of cases in order to review the execution of requests and discuss relevant legal standards.
12. States should consider enhancing training for the staff of central authorities and other relevant institutions engaged in the judicial cooperation process.
13. States should consider supporting technical assistance efforts, including as undertaken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to strengthen knowledge and capacity within central authorities and other relevant institutions.
14. States should look for opportunities in relevant multilateral forums to engage with counterparts from other central authorities, with a view to exchanging experiences and good practices.
15. States should, as appropriate, continue working with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the establishment of new regional networks of central authorities or judicial authorities, as well as in the implementation, strengthening and financial support of existing networks, including the Central American Network of Prosecutors against Organized Crime and the Network of West African Central Authorities and Prosecutors against Organized Crime.
16. States may consider, if needed and feasible, placing liaison magistrates or liaison officers in the capitals of other countries, with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of international cooperation.
17. States should consider using new forms of technology, including, where appropriate, online platforms, to enhance their ability to securely share information to combat transnational organized crime.
18. States should consider, with the assistance of the Secretariat and subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, the possibility of developing a global network through a virtual environment, for the purpose of establishing and enhancing direct contact between central authorities.
19. The Secretariat should undertake efforts to collect information from States on different possible models for central authorities for mutual legal assistance, with a view to sharing experiences with States wishing to establish or strengthen a central authority, as well as with a view to gaining a better understanding of the functioning and operation of central authorities at the national and international levels.
20. The Secretariat should continue its work to collect and disseminate, including through the knowledge management portal known as Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime, relevant national laws, guidelines and materials that can assist practitioners in the preparation and submission of requests for mutual legal assistance.

21. The Secretariat should continue the further development of tools for international cooperation in criminal matters, including the Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer Tool, with a view to supporting central authorities in strengthening communication channels and, as appropriate, in exchanging information at both the regional and international levels.

22. The Secretariat should consider, in consultation with States, the possibility of updating the *Legislative Guides for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto*.²³

23. The Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime should consider reaffirming the importance of the Working Group on International Cooperation continuing to meet as a constant element of the Conference in order to exchange information and experiences on good practices, and encouraging States to send practitioners to attend, as appropriate.

B. Decisions

2. At its seventh session, held in Vienna from 6 to 10 October 2014, the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime adopted the following decisions:

Decision 7/1

Provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

The Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime approved the provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Conference set out below.

Provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

1. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Opening of the eighth session of the Conference;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
 - (d) Participation;
 - (e) Adoption of the report of the Bureau on credentials;
 - (f) General discussion.
2. Review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto:

²³ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.V.2.

- (a) United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;
 - (b) Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;
 - (c) Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air;
 - (d) Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition.
- 3. Other serious crimes, as defined in the Convention, including new forms and dimensions of transnational organized crime.
 - 4. International cooperation, with particular emphasis on extradition, mutual legal assistance and international cooperation for the purpose of confiscation, and the establishment and strengthening of central authorities.
 - 5. Technical assistance.
 - 6. Financial and budgetary matters.
 - 7. Provisional agenda for the ninth session of the Conference.
 - 8. Other matters.
 - 9. Adoption of the report of the Conference on its eighth session.

Decision 7/2

Organization of the work of the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

The Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, taking into account rule 3, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure for the Conference:

(a) Decided that the eighth session of the Conference should take place over five working days, that the number of meetings should remain the same as for the previous sessions, that is, 20 meetings, with interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations, and that a decision should be taken at the end of the eighth session on the duration of the ninth session;

(b) Requested that the resources allocated to the Conference should be maintained at the same level and should be made available, *inter alia*, for any working groups or committee of the whole established by the Conference.

II. Organization of the session

A. Opening of the session

3. The Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime held its seventh session in Vienna from 6 to 10 October 2014. During the session, a total of 10 meetings were held, including

3 meetings of the Committee of the Whole. The Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance held three meetings, on 6 and 7 October 2014. The Working Group on International Cooperation also held three meetings, on 8 and 9 October 2014.

4. At the 1st meeting of the session, on 6 October 2014, opening statements were made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the representatives of the Philippines (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Namibia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Paraguay (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), the European Union (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine) and Japan (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States). Statements were also made by the President of the Judiciary of Peru, the Minister of Justice of Italy, the Minister of Justice of Namibia, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Ghana and the State-Secretary and Deputy Minister of the Interior of the Russian Federation. Further statements were made by the representatives of Colombia and Nigeria.

B. Election of officers

5. At its first session, the Conference had decided that the offices of President and Rapporteur should rotate among the regional groups and that such rotation should take place in alphabetical order. Accordingly, at the seventh session, the President of the Conference was nominated by the Eastern European States, while the Rapporteur was nominated by the Asia-Pacific States.

6. At its 1st meeting, on 6 October 2014, in accordance with rule 22 of the rules of procedure, the Conference elected the following officers by acclamation:

<i>President:</i>	Cristian Istrate (Romania)
<i>Vice-Presidents:</i>	Adelakun Abel Ayoko (Nigeria) John Brandolino (United States of America) Rafael Mariano Grossi (Argentina) Bin Hu (China) Wilson Marcelo Pastor Morris (Ecuador) Khaled Abdelrahman Shamaa (Egypt) María Isabel Vicandi Plaza (Spain) Barbara Zvokelj (Slovenia)
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	L. Amrih Jinangkung (Indonesia)

C. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

7. At its 1st meeting, on 6 October 2014, the Conference adopted the provisional agenda contained in document CTOC/COP/2014/1.

8. In its decision 5/2, the Conference had decided to establish a Committee of the Whole, the membership of which would be open to all States parties and signatories to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. The

Committee was to perform such functions as might be requested by the Conference in order to assist the Conference in dealing with its agenda and to facilitate its work; to consider specific items of the agenda, as requested by the Conference, and submit its comments and recommendations, including draft resolutions and draft decisions, to the Conference for consideration; to meet when the President of the Conference so decided; and to operate within the existing budgetary resources for the Conference. At the fourteenth meeting of the extended Bureau of the sixth session of the Conference, held on 4 April 2014, it was noted that, during the seventh session of the Conference, and in accordance with past practice, the plenary meeting would be suspended for the purpose of convening the Committee of the Whole, or that it would be convened when no parallel meetings of the working groups were taking place.

D. Participation

9. The seventh session of the Conference was attended by representatives of 108 States parties to the Convention and a regional economic integration organization party to the Convention. Also attending the session were observers for States signatories to the Convention, a non-member State maintaining a permanent observer mission to the United Nations, Secretariat units, United Nations programmes and funds, United Nations research and training institutes, institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, other entities maintaining permanent observer offices, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and relevant non-governmental organizations not having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that had applied for observer status.

10. The list of participants is contained in document CTOC/COP/2014/INF/2/Rev.2.

11. Rules 14 to 17 of the rules of procedure for the Conference, concerning the participation of observers, were brought to the attention of participants in the session.

E. Adoption of the report of the Bureau on credentials

12. According to rule 18 of the rules of procedure, as amended by the Conference in its decision 4/7, credentials should be issued by the Head of State or Government, by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by the Permanent Representative to the United Nations of the State party in accordance with its domestic law or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization. When the Conference is to consider proposals for amendments to the Convention in accordance with article 39 of the Convention and rule 62 of the rules of procedure for the Conference, the credentials should be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State party or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization.

13. According to rule 19 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau should examine the credentials of representatives of each State party and the names of the persons constituting the State party's delegation and submit its report to the Conference. According to rule 20 of the rules of procedure, pending a decision of the Bureau on their credentials, representatives will be entitled to participate provisionally in the session. Any representative of a State party to whose admission another State party has made objection will be seated provisionally with the same rights as other representatives of States parties until the Bureau has reported and the Conference has given its decision.

14. The Bureau of the Conference considered the issue of credentials at its 1st, 3rd and 4th meetings, on 6, 9 and 10 October 2014. At the 10th meeting of the Conference, on 10 October 2014, the President, on behalf of the Bureau, informed the Conference that, of the 108 States parties represented at the seventh session, 98 States parties had complied with the credentials requirements and 10 States parties had not complied with the credentials requirements. The President emphasized that it was the obligation of each State party to submit the credentials of representatives in accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure and called on those States parties that had not yet done so to provide the Secretariat with their original credentials as soon as possible but not later than 20 October 2014.

15. The Conference adopted the report of the Bureau on credentials at its 10th meeting, on 10 October 2014.

F. Documentation

16. The list of documents that the seventh session of the Conference had before it is contained in conference room paper CTOC/COP/2014/CRP.4.

III. General discussion

17. At its 1st to 3rd meetings, on 6 and 7 October 2014, the Conference considered agenda item 1 (f), entitled "Organizational matters: general discussion".

18. The Conference heard statements by the representatives of the United States, the Philippines, Algeria, South Africa, Thailand, China, Brazil, Switzerland, Qatar, Turkey, France, Costa Rica, Cuba, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Chile, Argentina, Mexico, Belgium, Belarus, Ecuador, Angola, Morocco, Australia, Afghanistan, Kenya, Egypt, Norway, Kazakhstan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Indonesia, El Salvador, Canada and Mozambique.

19. The Conference also heard a statement by the observer for the signatory State of Japan.

20. A statement was also made by the observer for a non-governmental organization, the Libyan Transparency Association.

Deliberations

21. Speakers reaffirmed that combating transnational organized crime remained a priority for States in maintaining social and economic stability and achieving durable peace, security and sustainable development. Some speakers referred to the links between organized crime and terrorism and expressed concern over the impact that the security situation in some regions had on transnational organized criminal activities and the financing of terrorism. Many speakers emphasized that successfully combating organized crime also required tackling the social causes of the problem and that issues dealt with by the Organized Crime Convention and its Protocols could be further addressed in the context of the post-2015 development agenda and the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

22. Speakers noted that enhanced efforts were being made at the national level to implement the provisions of the Convention and its Protocols, including harmonizing legislation, tackling corruption and strengthening prevention, awareness-raising and victim support mechanisms, in particular for those affected by trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants. Numerous speakers expressed their appreciation for the efforts that had been made in the implementation of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and welcomed the adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty to further strengthen the international legal framework and effectively supplement the Firearms Protocol.

23. Speakers emphasized that the Convention served as the main legal instrument in the fight against transnational organized crime by providing a global framework for international and regional cooperation, especially with regard to mutual legal assistance, extradition and asset recovery. It was emphasized that the Convention established a strong foundation for countering the most common types of serious organized crime, including emerging forms and dimensions of such crime, such as trafficking in organs, cultural property, flora and fauna, counterfeit medicines, precious metals and firearms, and cybercrime and money-laundering. Speakers highlighted the excellent cooperation within the regional networks of prosecutors and law enforcement agencies established and facilitated by UNODC.

24. Many speakers expressed their strong support for the active role of UNODC in delivering high-quality and prompt needs-based technical assistance that complemented national and regional activities in the fight against organized crime, particularly in the area of trafficking in persons, and acknowledged the benefits of sharing national experiences and good practices on crime prevention, including through the working groups of the Conference.

25. Many speakers stressed that adopting a mechanism to review the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto was crucial for advancing implementation, promoting cooperation, identifying technical assistance needs and building national capacities to combat transnational organized crime. Several speakers noted that the issues that had prevented the adoption of a review mechanism at the sixth session of the Conference still needed to be resolved, including the nature of the funding of such a mechanism and the issue of the

participation of civil society. In addition, many speakers emphasized that a review mechanism adopted by the Conference should be transparent, efficient, intergovernmental, non-intrusive, inclusive and impartial. Speakers also expressed the hope that the Conference would be able to bridge gaps in achieving consensus on a review mechanism during the seventh session of the Conference.

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

26. At its 3rd and 4th meetings, on 7 October 2014, 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 ensuring effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto (CTOC/COP/2014/2);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on the status of adherence to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, as at 10 September 2014 (CTOC/COP/2014/CRP.1).

27. A representative of the Secretariat made an introductory statement.

28. Statements were made by the representatives of Peru, Kenya, Romania, Algeria, Trinidad and Tobago, Norway, Zimbabwe, the United States and Indonesia.

29. The Conference also heard statements by the observers for the following signatory States: Islamic Republic of Iran and Republic of Korea.

1. Deliberations

30. Speakers reported on measures undertaken to implement the Organized Crime Convention, including both legislative and institutional actions. A number of speakers highlighted, in particular, recent efforts undertaken to amend substantive criminal legislation, criminal procedure codes and legislation on international cooperation in order to strengthen harmonization with the provisions of the Organized Crime Convention, including measures such as specialized investigative techniques and controlled deliveries.

31. Some delegations reported on amendments to domestic legislation on a number of crimes, including cybercrime, counterfeiting, illegal mining, wildlife and forest crime and fisheries crime, with a view to bringing those crimes within the scope of the Convention. Speakers also referred to efforts to strengthen legislation on trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants. In addition, reference was made to legislative amendments undertaken in the fields of combating corruption and the transborder movement of funds and countering money-laundering. Some

speakers emphasized that there was a need for national legislation relating to organized crime to be continually reviewed, assessed and updated. One speaker reported on a national process of gap analysis used to identify needs in legislative reform.

32. Speakers also indicated that capacity-building measures had been undertaken in the law enforcement and prosecutorial sectors by establishing specialized units, such as financial intelligence units, and by reinforcing human and technological resources in existing institutions, including research facilities. Some speakers referred to the establishment of national inter-agency coordinating bodies, aimed at supporting the drafting and adoption, as well as the implementation, of national policies to combat and prevent transnational organized crime.

33. Some speakers highlighted the value of the Convention as a legal basis for cooperation and noted an increasing reliance on the Convention in that regard to complement existing bilateral and regional frameworks. Other speakers referred to the establishment of arrangements to promote interregional cooperation.

34. Reference was made to the tools and guides developed by UNODC, including the Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer Tool, the knowledge management portal known as Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime (SHERLOC) and the directories of competent national authorities, which were considered to be useful in supporting States parties in the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto.

35. Many speakers underlined the importance of the timely adoption of a review mechanism in the light of Conference resolution 5/5.

2. Action taken by the Conference

36. At its 10th meeting, on 10 October 2014, the Conference adopted a revised draft resolution (CTOC/COP/2014/L.4/Rev.2) sponsored by Austria, France, Italy and Mexico. (For the text, see chapter I, section A, resolution 7/1.)²⁴ Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of such adoption.²⁵

37. At the 9th meeting of the Conference, on 10 October 2014, draft resolution CTOC/COP/2014/L.5 was withdrawn by its sponsor, owing to the fact that the text of that draft resolution had been merged with draft resolution CTOC/COP/2014/L.4.

B. Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children

38. At its 3rd, 4th and 5th meetings, on 7 and 8 October 2014, the Conference considered agenda item 2 (b), entitled “Review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto: Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially

²⁴ Explanations of position made in relation to this resolution can be found in the addendum to this report (CTOC/COP/2014/13/Add.1).

²⁵ CTOC/COP/2014/CRP.5, annex I.

Women and Children”. For its consideration of the item, the Conference had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretariat on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to promote and support the implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (CTOC/COP/2014/3);

(b) Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report on the meeting of the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons held in Vienna from 6 to 8 November 2013 (CTOC/COP/2014/6).

39. An introductory statement was made by a representative of the Secretariat. Statements were also made by the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and a representative of the Chair of the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons at its fifth meeting.

40. Statements were made by the representatives of Thailand, Ecuador, Algeria, Trinidad and Tobago, Egypt, Costa Rica, Belarus, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Norway, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Indonesia, Iraq, the United States and China.

41. Statements were also made by the observers for the following non-governmental organizations: the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women and the International Federation of University Women.

Deliberations

42. A representative of the Chair of the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons at its fifth meeting, which was held in Vienna from 6 to 8 November 2013, recalled the report on that meeting (CTOC/COP/WG.4/2013/5) and highlighted some of the recommendations adopted by the Working Group, including those pertaining to its future work. The representative also recalled the discussions on the participation of civil society in the meetings of the Working Group; she reported that there had been no consensus on the issue and that it should be resolved as soon as possible. She noted that there had been consensus in recognizing the partner role of civil society in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and in protecting and assisting victims.

43. Several speakers noted the central importance of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. Speakers reported on measures taken at the national level to combat trafficking in persons, including adherence to the Protocol and the adoption or amendment of national legal frameworks. Speakers provided information on the adoption of national action plans, the establishment of coordination and information-collection mechanisms and mechanisms for victim assistance, measures for seizing the proceeds of crime and preventative measures. The importance of international cooperation was highlighted, including through the development of bilateral and regional agreements.

44. A number of speakers emphasized the importance of the comprehensive approach adopted in the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons and welcomed the celebration of the first World Day against Trafficking in Persons, held on 30 July 2014, and the forthcoming publication by UNODC of the 2014 global report on trafficking in persons. Some speakers expressed support for the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children.

45. Several speakers stressed that the human rights of trafficking victims should be at the core of efforts to combat trafficking in persons and highlighted the importance of victim identification processes and comprehensive protection and assistance measures. Some speakers also emphasized the role of civil society organizations in implementing anti-trafficking measures.

46. Some speakers noted that analysing key concepts of the Protocol, such as the definition of trafficking in persons, remained an important issue and welcomed the UNODC issue paper on the notion of “consent” and the upcoming paper on the concept of “exploitation”. Many speakers welcomed the recommendations adopted by the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons at its fifth meeting and called for them to be implemented.

47. Several speakers highlighted the role of UNODC and other international and regional organizations in providing technical and operational assistance to promote implementation of the Protocol, and encouraged UNODC to continue its valuable support to Member States, including by developing training on the connection between new information technology and trafficking in persons.

C. Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air

48. At its 5th meeting, on 8 October 2014, the Conference considered agenda item 2 (c), entitled “Review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto: Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air”. For its consideration of the item, the Conference had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretariat on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to promote and support the implementation of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (CTOC/COP/2014/4);

(b) Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report on the meeting of the Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants held in Vienna from 11 to 13 November 2013 (CTOC/COP/2014/7).

49. A representative of the Secretariat made an introductory statement. A statement was also made by a representative of the Chair of the Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants at its second meeting, held in Vienna from 11 to 13 November 2013.

50. Statements were made by the representatives of Thailand, Algeria, Egypt, Costa Rica, Kazakhstan, Indonesia, Mexico, Argentina and the United States.

51. The observer for the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, an entity maintaining a permanent observer office at Headquarters, made a statement.
52. The observer for the Academic Council on the United Nations System also made a statement.

Deliberations

53. A representative of the Chair of the Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants at its second meeting recalled the report on that meeting (CTOC/COP/WG.7/2013/5) and the recommendations adopted by the Working Group. She referred to the discussions that had taken place regarding the participation of civil society in the meetings of the Working Group. She noted that there had been consensus on recognizing the role of civil society in offering support to migrants and to the most vulnerable groups in particular. The representative reported that the Chair of the Working Group at that meeting was of the view that the issue of the participation of civil society in the Working Group deserved the attention of the Conference.
54. Several speakers emphasized the importance of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air in combating migrant smuggling and stressed the need for a holistic approach to migration. Some speakers noted the difference between the mandatory criminalization provisions of the Protocol in relation to migrant smuggling and the provisions allowing States parties to address irregular migration in accordance with their domestic legislation. Several speakers welcomed the recommendations adopted by the Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants at its second meeting.
55. Speakers noted the need for comprehensive policy responses and appropriate legal frameworks at the national level and reported on measures taken to address the smuggling of migrants and to enhance their protection. The importance of fostering international cooperation was also noted.
56. Speakers highlighted the importance of prevention measures, including awareness-raising, sound border management policies, secure identity and travel documents and measures addressing the root causes of the smuggling of migrants. Some speakers noted the importance of working with civil society with regard to certain aspects.
57. Several speakers stressed the need to effectively prosecute migrant smugglers and ensure that sentences reflected the gravity of the crime. Some speakers noted the challenge of early identification of smuggled migrants and highlighted the importance of capacity-building in that regard. Many speakers expressed their appreciation for the technical assistance provided by UNODC to Member States and called on UNODC to continue its efforts.
58. Several speakers noted the importance of upholding the human rights of all migrants, including smuggled migrants, in accordance with the Protocol. Noting that the safety of migrants came first, speakers referred to the need for protection, in particular for migrants smuggled by sea.
59. Speakers highlighted the special situation of vulnerable migrants, including unaccompanied minors and women. Speakers noted the vulnerability of smuggled

migrants to crime, including kidnapping, rape, extortion and trafficking in persons, and stressed the importance of providing migrants with effective access to justice.

60. Several speakers stressed the need for close coordination among stakeholders at the national level and for enhanced regional and international cooperation, given the transnational dimension of the crime. Reference was made to progress achieved through the development of joint approaches, such as in the context of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States or the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime. Speakers referred to formal and informal multilateral and bilateral cooperation and the importance of information-sharing, joint operations, extradition and mutual legal assistance.

D. Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition

61. At its 5th meeting, on 8 October 2014, the Conference considered agenda item 2 (d), entitled “Review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto: Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition”. For its consideration of the item, the Conference had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretariat on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to promote and support the implementation of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (CTOC/COP/2014/5);

(b) Report submitted by the Chair of the Working Group on Firearms on the activities of the Working Group (CTOC/COP/2014/8).

62. A representative of the Secretariat made an introductory statement. A statement was also made by a representative of the Chair of the Working Group on Firearms at its second meeting, held in Vienna from 26 to 28 May 2014.

63. Statements were made by the representatives of Ecuador, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Algeria, the Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Costa Rica, China and the United States.

1. Deliberations

64. A statement was made on behalf of the Chair of the Working Group on Firearms at its second meeting, in which the speaker drew attention to the report on that meeting (CTOC/COP/WG.6/2014/4), including the recommendations made by the Working Group.

65. Several delegates made reference to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition as the only legally binding global instrument on trafficking in firearms and highlighted the importance of full and effective implementation of its provisions. Further, they outlined concrete measures for the implementation of the

Protocol, including the following: the review and adoption of new legislation; the deployment of technical tools for ballistic analysis; marking and record-keeping; increasing the capacity of governmental institutions to implement the new requirements; conducting programmes for the voluntary surrender of firearms, with the involvement of civil society organizations; destruction of all seized firearms; use of firearms-related research; and the establishment of national central coordination bodies. Delegates also recognized the importance of criminalizing all actions related to the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms.

66. Several speakers highlighted the importance of the global study on firearms, which was being conducted by UNODC pursuant to the mandate of the Conference, and expressed interest in learning more about the study's findings, with a view to continuing the study. Others expressed a desire to continue reviewing the study to assess whether it should be continued.

67. Several speakers expressed full support for the establishment of a broad cooperation framework for preventing and combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition. Many speakers provided examples of technical assistance at the bilateral and regional levels. A number of speakers referred to the forthcoming entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty and underlined its links and complementarity with the Firearms Protocol. Speakers stressed that international cooperation could help further reduce the levels of harm and violence resulting from trafficking in firearms.

68. A number of speakers expressed support for the recommendations of the Working Group on Firearms and the work that UNODC had carried out at the regional and global levels to assist States with the implementation of the Firearms Protocol, within the framework of the Global Programme on Firearms. Speakers called upon UNODC, through its Global Programme on Firearms, to play a more prominent role in the promotion of the Firearms Protocol and to find effective solutions for combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms. Speakers also expressed support for the expansion of the Global Programme on Firearms through the participation of additional States. Speakers recognized the difficulties related to securing the required resources and called upon States to ensure the sustainability and predictability of the support provided to the Programme. A number of delegates requested UNODC to continue providing technical assistance activities in relation to firearms to strengthen the capacities of Member States.

2. Action taken by the Conference

69. At its 10th meeting, on 10 October 2014, the Conference adopted a revised draft resolution (CTOC/COP/2014/L.6/Rev.2), sponsored by Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Italy, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Slovenia and the United States. (For the text, see chapter I, section A, resolution 7/2.) Prior to the adoption of the revised draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of such adoption.²⁶

²⁶ CTOC/COP/2014/CRP.5, annex II.

70. Following the adoption of the resolution, the representative of Mexico thanked all the delegations, including the co-sponsors, that had participated in the negotiating process and that had made it possible to improve the text. The representative stated that the Firearms Protocol was an extremely important instrument, including for his country. The speaker added that he had been part of the negotiations of the Firearms Protocol and was saddened that, so far, the instrument had received fewer ratifications and less attention than the other Protocols to the Convention. He reiterated the commitment of his country to giving the Protocol greater momentum, especially in the light of the forthcoming entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty, which would supplement efforts made in the context of the Protocol and the UNODC Global Programme on Firearms.

V. Other serious crimes, as defined in the Convention, including new forms and dimensions of transnational organized crime

71. At its 6th meeting, on 8 October 2014, the Conference considered agenda item 3, entitled “Other serious crimes, as defined in the Convention, including new forms and dimensions of transnational organized crime”.

72. A representative of the Secretariat made an introductory statement.

73. Statements were made by the representatives of Peru, Kenya, Algeria, Norway, China, Indonesia, South Africa, Thailand, Mexico, the United States, Egypt and France.

74. The observer for the signatory State of the Islamic Republic of Iran also made a statement.

75. The observer for the World Wildlife Fund for Nature, a non-governmental organization, made a statement.

Deliberations

76. Several speakers highlighted the flexible and adaptable nature of the Organized Crime Convention with regard to covering new forms and dimensions of transnational organized crime. Speakers noted that the Convention represented an appropriate framework for addressing such crimes, in particular through the notion of “serious crime”, which enabled it to cover crimes not specifically proscribed in it or the Protocols thereto, as well as currently emerging and further evolving forms of serious crime. In that context, several speakers emphasized the need to penalize new forms and dimensions of crime, taking into account article 2 (b) of the Convention, which defined the concept of serious crime, in order to trigger its applicability. Some speakers mentioned the need for new legal instruments on certain specific new forms and dimensions of transnational organized crime, such as cybercrime, trafficking in cultural property and wildlife crime. Other speakers reiterated that the Convention provided a sufficient basis for combating such crimes, and that priority should be given to strengthening its effective implementation.

77. Many speakers noted the grave economic, social, national security and public health impact and the possible links to terrorism financing of some new forms and dimensions of crime, such as trafficking in organs, fraudulent medicine, illegal mining, environmental crime and trafficking in cultural property. Some speakers highlighted the negative impact on development and governance caused by illicit financial flows in general, and by piracy in particular. In that regard, several speakers mentioned the links between money-laundering and new forms and dimensions of crime, and emphasized that the international community should take further steps to combat illicit financial flows.

78. Many speakers underscored the need to fully utilize the mechanisms and techniques available in the Convention. In particular, several speakers recognized the importance of international and regional cooperation, as well as the need for the exchange of information and the gathering of intelligence. Furthermore, many speakers referred to the successful use of special investigative techniques and joint investigations, including in the framework of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL). In that context, and with regard to technology-facilitated crimes against children, some speakers informed the Conference of new national legislation permitting law enforcement agencies to conduct undercover operations and infiltrate criminal networks. Some speakers noted that the Convention was utilized to counter organized sex tourism.

79. Many speakers made reference to cybercrime as a global threat, particularly regarding acts committed by transnational organized criminal groups. It was noted that, as technology became more sophisticated, cybercrime and computer-related crime, such as technology-facilitated fraud and trafficking in persons or drugs, were rising significantly. Speakers highlighted that, in order to effectively counter cybercrime, strengthening regional and international cooperation mechanisms, including through the application of existing legal instruments such as the Convention, remained of great importance. With regard to cybercrime, speakers described the adoption of national strategies and national substantive criminal and procedural legislation, as well as capacity-building and training measures to enable law enforcement and the judiciary to effectively prevent and combat cybercrime and to handle cases involving electronic evidence. Some speakers emphasized the continuing need for technical assistance, including through the UNODC Global Programme on Cybercrime. Speakers reported the establishment of specialized units within the law enforcement sector that were tasked with several duties, such as the investigation of cybercrime and conventional crimes involving electronic evidence, forensic analysis of electronic evidence, awareness-raising and prevention, in close cooperation with other relevant national authorities.

80. Several speakers highlighted that environmental crime included illegal logging, poaching of wildlife, trafficking in wild fauna and flora, fisheries crime, illegal mining, trafficking in precious metals and the dumping of toxic waste. Some speakers mentioned that the scale and scope of environmental crime were exceeding those of other trafficking activities, such as drug trafficking. Combating the poaching of and trafficking in wild fauna and flora was seen as a common and shared responsibility. In that context, speakers commended the work of UNODC through its Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime and encouraged strengthening its integration with other UNODC programmes, such as the Container Control Programme and the Global Programme against

Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, and enhancing cooperation with other international organizations.

81. Lastly, many speakers welcomed the finalization of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-third session, and their possible adoption by the General Assembly at its current session. Speakers also expressed the hope that the Guidelines would serve as the basis for increased cooperation in combating trafficking in cultural property and that their adoption would be followed up by concrete actions, including the development of technical assistance tools. One speaker mentioned the growing involvement in trafficking in cultural property of groups involved in organized crime and terrorist activities.

VI. International cooperation, with particular emphasis on extradition, mutual legal assistance and international cooperation for the purpose of confiscation, and the establishment and strengthening of central authorities

82. At its 6th, 7th and 8th meetings, on 8 and 9 October 2014, the Conference considered agenda item 4, entitled “International cooperation, with particular emphasis on extradition, mutual legal assistance and international cooperation for the purpose of confiscation, and the establishment and strengthening of central authorities”. For its consideration of the item, the Conference had before it the report of the Secretariat on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to promote the implementation of the provisions on international cooperation in the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (CTOC/COP/2014/10).

83. A representative of the Secretariat made an introductory statement. The Chair of the Working Group on International Cooperation at its fifth meeting, held in Vienna on 8 and 9 October 2014, also made a statement.

84. Statements were made by the representatives of Andorra, Trinidad and Tobago, Algeria, China, Thailand, Turkey, the United States, France and Egypt.

85. The observer for the Republic of Korea, a signatory State, also made a statement.

A. Deliberations

86. The Chair of the Working Group on International Cooperation at its fifth meeting introduced the recommendations that had been adopted by the Working Group. He expressed appreciation for the widespread geographical representation of experts in the Working Group, which had contributed to the high quality of the discussions.

87. Speakers stressed the importance of working together to prevent and combat transnational organized crime in all its dimensions, and underscored their commitment to undertaking measures to promote such cooperation. They also

emphasized the need to further utilize the Organized Crime Convention to facilitate and reinforce international cooperation.

88. Speakers highlighted how they had used the Convention to improve national responses, such as by aligning and strengthening national laws and entering into bilateral and multilateral agreements and treaties on mutual legal assistance and extradition.

89. Speakers noted the increasing utilization of bilateral and regional treaties as a basis for extradition and mutual legal assistance, and commented on the value of various channels, such as communications through INTERPOL or direct communication between central authorities.

90. Some speakers emphasized the importance of regional networks of central authorities and prosecutors, such as the Central American Network of Prosecutors against Organized Crime and the Network of West African Central Authorities and Prosecutors against Organized Crime, as a means of strengthening informal cooperation and the exchange of experiences and good practices. One speaker also noted the need for regional law enforcement networks and platforms for sharing experiences, and cited in that regard the UNODC “networking the networks” initiative.

91. Speakers praised the development of technical assistance tools by UNODC, in particular the online directory of competent national authorities, the Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer Tool and SHERLOC.

92. Some speakers noted that challenges remained in international cooperation, as some countries did not accept the Convention as a legal basis for international cooperation in criminal matters, and that certain types of conduct might not constitute serious crimes in both the requesting State and the requested State.

93. Speakers emphasized that the Working Group on International Cooperation should be continued, as it provided a unique and beneficial forum for the exchange of information and experiences.

B. Action taken by the Conference

94. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October 2014, the Conference adopted a draft resolution (CTOC/COP/2014/L.8) sponsored by Austria, Egypt, France, Saudi Arabia and the United States. (For the text, see chapter I, section A, resolution 7/4.) Prior to the adoption of the draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of such adoption.²⁷

²⁷ CTOC/COP/2014/CRP.5, annex IV.

VII. Technical assistance

95. At its 7th meeting, on 9 October 2014, the Conference considered agenda item 5, entitled “Technical assistance”. For its consideration of the item, the Conference had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report on the meeting of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance held in Vienna from 28 to 30 October 2013 (CTOC/COP/2014/9);

(b) Report of the Secretariat on the provision of technical assistance to States in the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto (CTOC/COP/2014/11).

96. A representative of the Secretariat made an introductory statement. Statements were also made by a representative of the Chair of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance at its seventh meeting, held in Vienna from 28 to 30 October 2013, and by the Chair of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance at its eighth meeting, held in Vienna on 6 and 7 October 2014.

97. Statements were made by the representatives of Algeria, China, Norway and the United States.

98. The Conference also heard a statement by the observer for the Republic of Korea, a signatory State.

A. Deliberations

99. A representative of the Chair of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance at its seventh meeting drew attention to the report on that meeting (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2013/5) and the recommendations adopted by the Working Group. She also highlighted that discussions regarding the future work of the Working Group had been held.

100. The Chair of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance at its eighth meeting introduced the recommendations that had been adopted by the Working Group and noted that discussions had taken place regarding the future work of the Working Group.

101. Many speakers emphasized that technical assistance was an integral component of implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto and expressed appreciation for the technical assistance provided by UNODC. Some speakers noted that UNODC should continue to apply the international principles of aid effectiveness and that the assistance provided should be focused on the needs of developing countries and based on an enhanced dialogue between requesting and donor States, as well as with UNODC.

102. Some speakers emphasized the need for a strategic approach to the provision of technical assistance and praised the technical assistance framework of the thematic and regional programmes of UNODC. One speaker proposed standardizing a progress reporting structure following that approach.

103. It was noted that national legislation to implement the Convention and the Protocols thereto should not only be drafted and adopted, but that adequate resources and capacity should also be made available to fully implement that legislation.

104. Some speakers noted that information-gathering, pursuant to article 32 of the Convention, was vital to measuring implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, as well as to improving the design and delivery of technical assistance. In that regard, one speaker noted the decreased participation in reporting by States parties since 2008 and underscored the importance of past resolutions and decisions by the Conference in which States had been requested to fulfil reporting obligations through the use of self-assessment questionnaires, the omnibus survey software and SHERLOC. The speaker encouraged States to consider ways to assist each other in the fulfilment of those obligations.

B. Action taken by the Conference

105. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October 2014, the Conference adopted a draft resolution (CTOC/COP/2014/L.7) sponsored by Nigeria and Ghana, as orally amended. (For the text, see chapter I, section A, resolution 7/3.) Prior to the adoption of the draft resolution, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on the financial implications of such adoption.²⁸

VIII. Financial and budgetary matters

106. At its 7th meeting, on 9 October 2014, the Conference considered agenda item 6, entitled “Financial and budgetary matters”. For its consideration of the item, the Conference had before it the note by the Secretariat on financial and budgetary matters (CTOC/COP/2014/12).

107. A representative of the Secretariat made an introductory statement.

108. A statement was made by the representative of the United States.

Deliberations

109. One speaker expressed support for the Organized Crime Convention and the promotion of its implementation and welcomed the increase in voluntary contributions to UNODC, as reported by the Secretariat. The speaker also expressed support for UNODC programmes and commended the efforts of UNODC field staff in implementing those programmes.

IX. Provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Conference

110. At its 8th meeting, on 9 October 2014, the Conference considered agenda item 7, entitled “Provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Conference”. The

²⁸ CTOC/COP/2014/CRP.5, annex III.

draft provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Conference had been drawn up by the Secretariat in consultation with the Bureau, pursuant to rule 8 of the rules of procedure.

Action taken by the Conference

111. At its 8th meeting, on 9 October 2014, the Conference adopted the provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Conference as contained in draft decision CTOC/COP/2014/L.2, which had been submitted by the extended Bureau. (For the text, see chapter I, section B, decision 7/1.) The Conference decided that its eighth session would take place from 17 to 21 October 2016.

X. Other matters

112. At its 8th and 10th meetings, on 9 and 10 October 2014, the Conference considered agenda item 8, entitled “Other matters”.

113. Statements were made by the representatives of the Netherlands, Italy, Poland, France, Brazil, South Africa, Norway and Switzerland.

A. Deliberations

114. Speakers discussed the proposed duration of the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties. Some speakers proposed shortening the duration of the session, indicating that the agenda of the Conference did not justify a session of five days. Some speakers also indicated that there had been a low number of experts participating in the seventh session of the Conference, and made reference to austerity measures being applied by many Governments. Other speakers did not agree with the idea of shortening the duration of the eighth session of the Conference.

115. One State party and a regional economic integration organization party to the Convention delivered statements in observance of the 12th World Day Against the Death Penalty.

B. Action taken by the Conference

116. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October 2014, the Conference adopted a draft decision (CTOC/COP/2014/L.3) that had been submitted by the extended Bureau. (For the text, see chapter I, section B, decision 7/2.) Prior to the adoption of the decision, a representative of the Secretariat read out a statement on its financial implications.²⁹

²⁹ CTOC/COP/2014/CRP.5, annex V.

XI. Adoption of the report of the Conference on its seventh session

117. At its 10th meeting, on 10 October 2014, the Conference adopted the report on its seventh session (CTOC/COP/2014/L.1 and Add.1-10), as orally amended.
