



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

Distr.: General
21 March 2018

Original: English

**Working Group of Government Experts on
Technical Assistance**
Vienna, 28–31 May 2018

Working Group on International Cooperation
Vienna, 28–31 May 2018

Annotated provisional agendas

Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance

1. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Opening of the meeting;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Good practices for effective training and legislative assistance to enhance the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.
3. Preparation of the questionnaire to review the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (*joint item of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance and the Working Group on International Cooperation*).
4. Other matters (*joint item*).
5. Adoption of the report (*joint item*).

Working Group on International Cooperation

1. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Opening of the meeting;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Preparation of the questionnaire to review the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (*joint item of the Working Group on International Cooperation and the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance*).
3. Discussion of challenges faced in the course of extradition proceedings:
 - (a) Consultations between the requested and the requesting State;
 - (b) Sharing of information regarding extradition proceedings;
 - (c) Technical assistance at the regional and global levels to support central authorities.
4. Other matters (*joint item*).
5. Adoption of the report (*joint item*).



Annotations

Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance

1. Organizational matters

(a) Opening of the meeting

The eleventh meeting of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance will be opened on Monday, 28 May, at 10 a.m.

(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

At its meeting held on 22 January 2018, the extended Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime approved the President's proposal to hold back-to-back meetings of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance and the Working Group on International Cooperation from 28 to 31 May 2018, with joint meetings to discuss the agenda item on the preparation of a questionnaire to review the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention, in accordance with Conference resolution 8/2.

On 12 March 2018, the extended Bureau approved by tacit consensus the additional agenda item for the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance, entitled "Good practices for effective training and legislative assistance to enhance the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime".

Deliberations on agenda items 1 and 2 of the eleventh meeting of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance will begin on Monday, 28 May 2018, at 10 a.m.

It is envisaged that the joint meetings on the shared agenda item entitled "Preparation of the questionnaire to review the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime" will begin at the meeting held in the afternoon of Monday, 28 May 2018, and will continue until 1 p.m. on Wednesday, 30 May 2018.

Other matters for both working groups and the adoption of the joint report are expected to be discussed at the meeting held in the afternoon of Thursday, 31 May 2018.

2. Good practices for effective training and legislative assistance to enhance the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

Under agenda item 2, the Secretariat will provide information on the forthcoming teaching guide on organized crime, developed as part of the Education for Justice initiative of the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation. The Doha Declaration was adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in 2015, and endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution [70/174](#). The guide has been designed to promote and enhance multidisciplinary teaching on the subject at the tertiary level of education and contains modules on topics such as defining organized crime, organized criminal markets, infiltration of organized criminal groups, law enforcement tools and cooperation among law enforcement authorities, prosecution strategies, sentencing and confiscation, and international cooperation and prevention.

By exchanging views and good practices on this and other training initiatives, as well as on training techniques and methodologies, States can tap into existing resources and enhance the delivery of training so as better to understand and combat transnational organized crime. Furthermore, as the Organized Crime Convention nears universal adherence, by holding deliberations on legislative assistance in

harmonizing domestic legislation with the Convention, States can discuss their technical assistance needs and tools to provide technical assistance, as well as challenges encountered and lessons learned in the implementation of the Convention.

Documentation

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat on good practices for effective training and legislative assistance to enhance the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2018/2)

3. Preparation of the questionnaire to review the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹

In its resolution 8/2, the Conference decided to continue the process of establishing the mechanism for the review of the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto based on the recommendations contained in the report on the meeting to explore all options regarding an appropriate and effective review mechanism for the Convention and the Protocols thereto (CTOC/COP/WG.8/2016/2). In the same resolution, the Conference decided to elaborate specific procedures and rules for the functioning of the review mechanism for consideration and adoption by the Conference at its ninth session, which were to be guided by the principles and characteristics set out in Conference resolution 5/5.

Also in its resolution 8/2, the Conference decided that the review mechanism was to progressively address all of the articles of the Convention and the Protocols thereto for each of the instruments that States parties are parties to, grouped in thematic clusters in accordance with the content of their provisions and that, in order to review each thematic cluster of articles, the relevant working group was to define, in the next two years, with the assistance of the Secretariat, a short, precise and focused self-assessment questionnaire.

At the tenth meeting of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance and the eighth meeting of the Working Group on International Cooperation, held from 9 to 13 October 2017, the working groups met jointly to consider a draft questionnaire prepared by the Secretariat to review the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention (see CTOC/COP/WG.3/2017/3-CTOC/COP/WG.2/2017/2). The comments and suggestions presented during those joint meetings were gathered in a non-paper that was circulated at the request of the chairs of the working groups as an outcome of the meetings.

For its consideration of agenda item 3, the working groups will have before them the non-paper, which contains the draft questionnaire for the review of the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2018/CRP.1-CTOC/COP/WG.3/2018/CRP.1).

No other documentation regarding this item is currently foreseen.

Documentation

Non-paper containing a draft questionnaire for the review of the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention prepared in accordance with resolution 8/2 of the Conference of the Parties (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2018/CRP.1-CTOC/COP/WG.3/2018/CRP.1)

4. Other matters¹

As no issues to be raised under agenda item 4 have come to the attention of the Secretariat, no documentation regarding the item is currently foreseen.

¹ Item to be discussed jointly by both working groups.

5. Adoption of the report¹

The Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance and the Working Group on International Cooperation will adopt a joint report on their meetings, including their joint meetings, the draft of which will be prepared by the Secretariat.

Working Group on International Cooperation

1. Organizational matters

(a) Opening of the meeting

The ninth meeting of the Working Group on International Cooperation will be opened at the meeting held in the afternoon of Monday, 28 May 2018.

(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

For annotations on item 1 (b), please see agenda item 1 (b) of the provisional agenda for the eleventh meeting of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance (above).

On 16 March 2018, by tacit consensus, the extended Bureau approved the additional agenda item for the Working Group on International Cooperation, entitled “Discussion of challenges faced in the course of extradition proceedings: (a) consultations between the requested and the requesting State; (b) sharing of information regarding extradition proceedings; and (c) technical assistance at the regional and global levels to support central authorities”.

Deliberations on agenda item 3 of the Working Group on International Cooperation are expected to take place from 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 30 May 2018 until the meeting held in the afternoon of Thursday, 31 May 2018.

2. Preparation of the questionnaire to review the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

For annotations on item 2, please see agenda item 3 of the provisional agenda for the eleventh meeting of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance (above).

3. Discussion of challenges faced in the course of extradition proceedings

In its resolution 8/1, entitled “Enhancing the effectiveness of central authorities in international cooperation in criminal matters to counter transnational organized crime”, the Conference of the Parties called upon States parties to staff, equip and empower central authorities so that those authorities play an effective coordinating role among various government agencies within a State party and with other States parties in order to ensure effective implementation of the Convention regarding international cooperation in criminal matters.

In the same resolution, the Conference emphasized the importance of contact and consultation between central authorities from both requesting and requested States parties, where appropriate, in order to support effective international cooperation, both before the submission of a request for international cooperation, to ensure that the request is legally and factually sufficient under the domestic law of the requested State party, and after the submission of a request, to clarify specific matters and to allow for consultations before refusing or partially refusing a request for assistance, consistent with article 16, paragraph 16, and article 18, paragraph 26, of the Convention.

Also in resolution 8/1, the Conference highlighted the particular importance of engagement between central authorities in order to review the execution of requests, discuss impediments to mutual cooperation and identify solutions to those challenges, and to help to facilitate the timely execution of requests for assistance or cooperation. The Conference also urged States parties, including in collaboration with the United

Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to promote training and technical assistance to facilitate international cooperation under the Convention, and, in this regard, encouraged States parties to prioritize efforts to strengthen knowledge and capacity within their central authorities and other relevant institutions.

The Working Group on International Cooperation, at its sixth meeting, held in Vienna on 27 and 28 October 2015, recommended that Member States should consider encouraging practitioners, in appropriate cases, to consult informally prior to making a formal request for extradition or mutual legal assistance, and that in doing so, States parties should promote initiatives to make available clear guidance on their procedures and requirements for making such requests (see [CTOC/COP/WG.3/2015/4](#), para. 2, subpara. (e)).

At the eighth meeting of the Working Group on International Cooperation, held in Vienna from 9 to 13 October 2017, the Chair invited delegations to suggest topics for possible inclusion in the agendas of future working group meetings, subject to further consultation between States parties and consideration and decision by the extended Bureau of the Conference. A number of topics were suggested for future meetings of the Working Group on International Cooperation, as reflected in the report of its eighth meeting (see [CTOC/COP/WG.2/2017/4-CTOC/COP/WG.3/2017/4](#), para. 38).

Under agenda item 3, the Working Group on International Cooperation may wish to focus its deliberations on the following subtopics:

- (a) Consultations between the requested and the requesting State;
- (b) Sharing of information regarding extradition proceedings;
- (c) Technical assistance at the regional and global levels to support central authorities.

Documentation

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat on the discussion of challenges faced in the course of extradition proceedings ([CTOC/COP/WG.3/2018/2](#))

4. Other matters¹

As no issues to be raised under agenda item 4 have come to the attention of the Secretariat, no documentation regarding the item is currently foreseen.

5. Adoption of the report¹

The Working Group on International Cooperation and the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance will adopt a joint report on their meetings, including their joint meetings, the draft of which will be prepared by the Secretariat.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Working Group</i>				
<i>Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance</i>			<i>Working Group on International Cooperation</i>	
<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
Monday, 28 May				
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	1 (a)	Opening of the meeting		
	1 (b)	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work		
	2	Good practices for effective training and legislative assistance to enhance the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime		
3–6 p.m.	2	Good practices for effective training and legislative assistance (<i>continued</i>)		
			1 (a)	Opening of the meeting
			1 (b)	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	3	Preparation of the questionnaire to review the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime	2	Preparation of the questionnaire to review the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
Tuesday, 29 May				
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	3	Preparation of the questionnaire (<i>continued</i>)	2	Preparation of the questionnaire (<i>continued</i>)
3–6 p.m.	3	Preparation of the questionnaire (<i>continued</i>)	2	Preparation of the questionnaire (<i>continued</i>)
Wednesday, 30 May				
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	3	Preparation of the questionnaire (<i>continued</i>)	2	Preparation of the questionnaire (<i>continued</i>)
3–6 p.m.			3	Discussion of challenges faced in the course of extradition proceedings
Thursday, 31 May				
10 a.m.–1 p.m.			3	Discussion of challenges faced in the course of extradition proceedings (<i>continued</i>)
3–6 p.m.			3	Discussion of challenges faced in the course of extradition proceedings (<i>continued</i>)
	4	Other matters (<i>joint item</i>)	4	Other matters (<i>joint item</i>)
	5	Adoption of the report (<i>joint item</i>)	5	Adoption of the report (<i>joint item</i>)