



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

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Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance

Vienna, 28–31 May 2018

Working Group on International Cooperation

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Draft report on the meetings of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance and the Working Group on International Cooperation held in Vienna from 28 to 31 May 2018

I. Introduction

Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance

1. The Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance was established pursuant to decision 2/6 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. In its decision 4/3, the Conference decided that the Working Group should be a constant element of the Conference. The Working Group held its tenth meeting in Vienna from 10 to 13 October 2017.
2. In its resolution 7/1, entitled “Strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto”, the Conference decided that the working groups established by it should continue to analyse, in a comprehensive manner, the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, making the best use of the information gathered, in full respect of the principle of multilingualism.
3. Furthermore, in its resolution 8/4, entitled “Implementation of the provisions on technical assistance of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime”, the Conference noted that technical assistance was a fundamental part of the work carried out by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to assist Member States in the effective implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto.

Working Group on International Cooperation

4. In its decision 2/2, the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime decided to establish an open-ended working group to hold substantive discussions on practical issues pertaining to extradition, mutual legal assistance and international cooperation for the purpose of confiscation. In its decision 3/2, the Conference decided that an open-ended working group on international cooperation would be a constant element of the Conference. The Working Group on International Cooperation, established pursuant to that decision, holds substantive discussions on practical issues pertaining to different forms of international cooperation, including extradition, mutual legal



assistance and international cooperation for the purpose of confiscation. The Working Group convened its first meeting during the third session of the Conference, which was held in Vienna from 9 to 18 October 2006. It has consistently met on a biennial basis and during the regular sessions of the Conference. Since 2014, however, the meetings have been convened on an annual basis based on resolution 7/1 of the Conference, in which the Conference encouraged 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. The eighth meeting of the Working Group was held in Vienna from 9 to 13 October 2017.

II. Recommendations

Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance

5. The following recommendations were formulated by the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance:

6. States should encourage their training and learning institutes to participate in the development, dissemination and utilization of teaching material, including the newly developed Education for Justice (E4J) teaching modules on organized crime, and consider integrating them in relevant national training curricula.

7. States should consider encouraging interaction between academics and practitioners as well as engaging criminal justice practitioners in delivering education against organized crime.

8. UNODC should continue developing multidisciplinary and interactive teaching material and other technical assistance tools on organized crime at the primary, secondary and, in particular, tertiary level. Such teaching material needs to be based on identified needs and adaptable to local circumstances and cultural context.

States should consider providing extrabudgetary resources to support education against organized crime and the further development as well as regionalization of teaching materials and tools by UNODC for promotion of the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto.

Working Group on International Cooperation

9. The following recommendations were formulated by the Working Group on International Cooperation:

III. Summary of deliberations

A. Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance

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

10. At its 1st meeting, on 28 May, the Working Group considered agenda item 2, entitled “Good practices for effective training and legislative assistance to enhance the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime”. The discussion was facilitated by a presentation by the Secretariat.

11. Several speakers expressed their appreciation to the Secretariat for preparing the teaching modules on organized crime and some expressed their interest in integrating the modules in national curricula. Many speakers appreciated the multidisciplinary and interactive nature of the teaching modules. Speakers further emphasised the importance of multilingualism in general and regionalization of the teaching modules to reflect the specificities and legal traditions of each region. One speaker highlighted

the need for tailor-made education against organized crime at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels. Furthermore, one speaker highlighted the importance of developing teaching material exploring the linkages between organized crime and terrorism as well as organized crime and emerging forms of crime. Similarly, another speaker stressed the importance of taking into account gender and human rights concerns in the teaching material. In the context of training delivery, many speakers encouraged interaction between academics and practitioners, such as judges, prosecutors, law enforcement and central authorities for international cooperation. Finally, several speakers mentioned technical assistance needs in effective education against organized crime.

B. Working Group on International Cooperation

Discussion of challenges faced in the course of extradition proceedings

C. Joint items of the Working Group on International Cooperation and the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance

1. **Preparation of the questionnaire to review the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, in accordance with resolution 8/2 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (agenda item 2, Working Group on International Cooperation; agenda item 3, Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance)**
2. **Other matters (agenda item 4, Working Group on International Cooperation; agenda item 4, Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance)**

IV. Organization of the meetings

A. Duration of the meetings

12. The Working Group on International Cooperation met from 28 to 31 May 2018, holding a total of seven meetings. The meetings were chaired by Thomas Burrows (United States of America).

13. The Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance met from 28 to 31 May 2018, holding a total of six meetings. The meetings were chaired by Thomas Burrows (United States).

B. Statements

14. Under agenda item 2 of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance, statements were made by representatives of the following States parties to the Convention: Argentina, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Italy, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America [...].

15. Under agenda item 2 of the Working Group on International Cooperation, statements were made by representatives of the following States parties to the Convention: China, Japan, Namibia, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, United States of America, Zimbabwe [...].

16. The observer for Iran (Islamic Republic of) also made a statement.

17. Representatives of the Secretariat delivered presentations under agenda item 2 of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance and agenda item 2 of the Working Group on International Cooperation.

C. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance

18. At its 1st meeting, on 28 May 2018, the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance adopted the following agenda, as orally amended:

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 Organized Crime Convention.
3. Preparation of the questionnaire to review the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention (*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

19. At its 1st meeting, on 28 May 2018, the Working Group on International Cooperation adopted the following agenda, as orally amended:

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

D. Attendance

20. The following States parties to the Convention were represented at the meeting: Algeria, Angola, Austria, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, Chile,¹ China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador,² Egypt, El Salvador, France, Germany, Honduras, Hungary, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania,

¹ Attending the 11th session of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance only.

² Attending the 11th session of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance only.

Russian Federation, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Switzerland,³ Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe [...].

21. Iran (Islamic Republic of), a signatory State to the Convention, was represented by an observer.

E. Documentation

Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance

22. The Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance had before it the following:

(a) Provisional agenda and annotations ([CTOC/COP/WG.2/2018/1–CTOC/COP/WG.3/2018/1](#));

(b) Good practices for effective training and legislative assistance to enhance the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime ([CTOC/COP/WG.2/2018/2](#));

(c) Non-paper containing a draft questionnaire for the review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2018/CRP.1–CTOC/COP/WG.3/2018/CRP.1).

Working Group on International Cooperation

23. The Working Group on International Cooperation had before it the following:

(a) Provisional agenda and annotations ([CTOC/COP/WG.2/2018/1–CTOC/COP/WG.3/2018/1](#));

(b) Discussing challenges faced in the course of extradition proceedings ([CTOC/COP/WG.3/2018/2](#));

(c) Non-paper containing a draft questionnaire for the review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2018/CRP.1–CTOC/COP/WG.3/2018/CRP.1).

V. Adoption of the report

24. On 31 May 2018, the Working Groups adopted the present joint report on their meetings, as orally amended.

³ Attending the 9th session of the Working Group on International Cooperation only.