



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

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Implementation Review Group

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VI. Other matters

1. In reference to the joint meetings of the Implementation Review Group and the Working Group on Asset Recovery, held on 29 May 2019, one speaker recalled the intergovernmental nature of the Implementation Review Group, as stipulated in paragraph 42 of the terms of reference for the Mechanism. He noted that neither the Convention nor any of the other documents adopted within its purview provided for the participation of civil society in those meetings. He reminded the Group of the compromise reached by the Conference in its resolution 4/6 entitled “Non-governmental organizations and the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”. At the same time, he referred to the important role played by civil society organizations in anti-corruption efforts at the national level.
2. Another speaker reiterated her Government’s strong commitment to the Mechanism, referred to the effective country visit conducted in its framework and provided details on civil society participation in that visit. The speaker also reiterated her Government’s commitments to international standards and referred inter alia to her country’s completion of the mutual evaluation under FATF. She mentioned that her Government was particularly interested in how States parties could maximize synergies from these other related mechanisms and, potentially, accrue efficiency gains in relation to the Implementation Review Mechanism established under the Convention. Moreover, the speaker highlighted the need for swift and full international cooperation in relation to mutual legal assistance and outlined inter alia her Government’s efforts to recover proceeds of crime, to review and improve the confiscation regime, as well as to continue its efforts to address serious organized crime and anti-corruption.
3. Another speaker stressed the need to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating corruption and the threat posed by corruption to the stability of societies and economies. While reiterating her Government’s commitment to the Convention, she referred to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and noted that the eradication of bribery was one of its key objectives. The speaker stressed inter alia that States should fulfil their obligations under the Convention in a manner consistent with the principles of equality, territorial sovereignty, and integrity of States, as well as non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other States. She also stressed the need for awareness-raising and for pursuing international cooperation and effective partnerships in order to share intelligence and best practices and tracing stolen assets.

