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## Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda\*

**Integration and coordination of efforts by the  
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by  
Member States in the field of crime prevention and  
criminal justice**

## International cooperation in combating transnational organized crime and corruption

### Report of the Secretary-General

#### *Summary*

The present report provides information on international cooperation and technical assistance activities undertaken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to fight transnational organized crime, in all its forms and manifestations, including new and emerging forms, and corruption.

## I. Introduction

1. The present report has been prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2023/330, in which the Council approved the provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.
2. The report provides information on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) related to item 6, sub-items (a) and (b), of the provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Commission ([E/CN.15/2024/1](#)). It contains information on activities undertaken, and assistance provided to Member States at their request, by UNODC between February 2023 and February 2024 to curb transnational organized crime, including new and emerging forms of crime, and corruption.

\* [E/CN.15/2024/1](#).



## **II. Transnational organized crime**

### **A. Intergovernmental processes**

#### **1. Working groups of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime**

3. During the reporting period, the Working Group on Firearms, the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons, the Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants, the Working Group on International Cooperation and the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance held one meeting each under the authority of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. The recommendations adopted by the working groups were submitted to the Conference for endorsement at its twelfth session.

#### **2. Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and Protocols thereto**

4. UNODC continued to provide technical and substantive assistance to States parties, at their request, in relation to their participation in the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto.

5. Owing to delays in the commencement of the first phase of the review process, the thematic cluster on criminalization and jurisdiction is still under review, with the involvement of 189 parties. The Office has been providing technical assistance, including the setting up of the reviews in the secure module of the Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime (SHERLOC) knowledge management portal, known as “RevMod”.

6. At the time of reporting, the secretariat had received nominations of focal points from 162 out of 189 parties. Following the nomination of focal points by parties participating in the review process, 72 country reviews had been advancing. Those reviews were mostly at the stage of the written feedback, or at the stage of the submission of the self-assessment questionnaire. Thus, 38 per cent of all country reviews had been advancing since the launch of the review process in October 2020.

7. In 2023, UNODC facilitated the organization of 23 preliminary consultation meetings, in addition to supporting a total of 674 nominated officials from 145 States parties in the six official languages of the United Nations and in Portuguese,<sup>1</sup> including through training on the implementation of the review process.

8. UNODC continued to develop new features and functionalities in “RevMod” and enhanced the user interface of the platform. The dedicated website of the Implementation Review Mechanism has been constantly updated and expanded to include additional information, such as responses to the self-assessment questionnaires, the status of country reviews and latest news.

9. To promote the engagement of non-governmental stakeholders, in 2023 UNODC supported the second series of constructive dialogues with relevant stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations, held in accordance with paragraph 53 of the procedures and rules for the functioning of the Implementation Review Mechanism. Five constructive dialogues were conducted in a hybrid format, involving the participation of 328 stakeholders representing 299 non-governmental organizations, 15 stakeholders from academia and 14 from the private sector.

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<sup>1</sup> With a view to promoting multilingualism, the Implementation Review Mechanism capitalizes on existing human resources to support Portuguese-speaking countries with limited capacity in English or other official languages of the United Nations.

10. Since the establishment of the Global Programme to Support the Mechanism, a total of approximately \$5,137,418 in voluntary contributions has been received. In addition, contributions in kind were provided by two States parties.

### **3. Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes**

11. During the reporting period, the Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes, established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 74/247, held two negotiating sessions, a concluding session and, to support the work of Member States, two intersessional consultations with multi-stakeholders.

## **B. Promoting adherence to the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto**

12. At the time of reporting, there were 192 parties to the Organized Crime Convention, 181 parties to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, 151 parties to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, and 123 parties to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition.

13. During the reporting period, South Sudan acceded to the Organized Crime Convention, the Kingdom of the Netherlands extended the Trafficking in Persons Protocol to Curaçao and China ratified the Firearms Protocol.

14. UNODC continued to engage with non-parties to promote universal adherence to the Organized Crime Convention, providing pre-accession assistance to South Sudan and Somalia.

15. In support of national efforts to achieve adherence to the Trafficking in Persons Protocol and the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, UNODC assisted in the development of new and/or the revision of existing domestic legislation and policies on trafficking in persons and/or the smuggling of migrants in Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, the Comoros, Honduras, Iraq, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Somalia and South Sudan, as well as the Caribbean Community and the European Union. Pre-ratification support to promote the ratification of the Firearms Protocol was provided to Australia, Malta, Saint Lucia, Somalia and South Sudan.

## **C. Promoting the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto, with a focus on fostering international cooperation**

### **1. Organized Crime Convention**

16. In 2023, UNODC continued to develop the SHERLOC knowledge management portal and to disseminate information on the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention. As of January 2024, SHERLOC included 3,490 case summaries from 139 States and more than 13,200 annotated legislative extracts from 197 States, including the two permanent observer States to the United Nations (Holy See and State of Palestine) and two States in free association with New Zealand (Cook Islands and Niue). As of January 2024, SHERLOC also contained 264 strategies from 98 countries and nine regional organizations. During the reporting period, SHERLOC was accessed by 390,151 users.

17. In 2023, UNODC, through its Global Programme on Implementing the Organized Crime Convention: from Theory to Practice, trained more than 750 key

stakeholders from over 90 jurisdictions, as well as representatives of international and regional organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector, on the use of the “Organized crime strategy toolkit for developing high-impact strategies”. At the national level, UNODC assisted Bosnia and Herzegovina, Côte d’Ivoire, Ecuador, Ghana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mozambique, Senegal and Uzbekistan, as well as the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, in developing strategies against organized crime. Of those countries, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Ecuador developed and adopted national strategies with UNODC support.

18. UNODC also enhanced its assistance to Member States in mainstreaming gender and human rights in legislation, policies and strategies against organized crime. A dedicated project in that regard resulted in the publication of the Toolkit on Mainstreaming Gender and Human Rights in the Implementation of *the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime*, as well as in the training of over 70 stakeholders from 16 countries in South and South-East Asia on the use of the toolkit.

19. The Office also issued two publications, entitled *Combating Crimes in the Fisheries Sector: A Guide to Good Legislative Practices* and “Building and strengthening resilience to organized crime at times of crisis: annex to the Organized Crime Strategy Toolkit”, and two regional policy briefs, entitled “An aid to strategic responses to organized crime in East and Southern Africa” and “An aid to strategic responses to organized crime in West and Central Africa”.

20. UNODC continued to support exchanges among practitioners involved in international cooperation in criminal matters, including through the organization of an expert group meeting held in Vienna from 23 to 25 October 2023. The meeting brought together 55 practitioners and experts, including experts from central authorities, from 15 countries and six intergovernmental organizations.

21. Field-based technical assistance relating to international cooperation in criminal matters included training workshops in Nairobi for Somali officers, aimed at building stronger procedural mechanisms for mutual legal assistance and extradition in Somalia; in Amman for Iraqi officers involved in international cooperation in criminal matters; and in Beirut for officials from law enforcement authorities and the judiciary in Lebanon.

22. UNODC also delivered online training to prosecutors from the Department for International Cooperation in Criminal Matters of the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine at two training workshops, one on extradition and one on mutual legal assistance, organized by the European Union Advisory Mission Ukraine and the Prosecutor’s Training Center of Ukraine.

## **2. Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children**

23. Through its global programmes against trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, UNODC provided training to more than 3,485 criminal justice practitioners, government officials and civil society representatives – including 1,332 women – from more than 34 countries in 2023. The Office supported 11 States, as well as the Caribbean Community and the European Union, in developing their legislation and aligning it with international standards.

24. In 2023, under the UNODC Transforming Alerts into Criminal Justice Responses to Combat Trafficking in Persons within Migration Flows (TRACK4TIP) regional initiative, 72 investigations of trafficking in persons were conducted and 72 victims were rescued. UNODC organized three bilateral meetings between Ecuador and Peru and provided technical assistance to the Binational Immediate Response Team, comprising members from Ecuador and Peru, in relation to cases of cross-border trafficking in persons.

25. UNODC further strengthened its work in inter-agency forums, in particular as coordinator of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons

(ICAT), a group of 31 United Nations entities and other international and regional organizations, by contributing, inter alia, a series of six webinars focusing on data and research on trafficking in persons. The Group also placed significant emphasis on children, which culminated in the ICAT Call for Accelerated Action by 2025 to Prevent and End Child Trafficking.

26. In December 2023, UNODC participated in the second Global Refugee Forum, held in Geneva, and contributed to four multi-stakeholder pledges, covering, inter alia, refugee protection and risks of trafficking in persons.

27. Since its launch in April 2022, the Knowledge Hub on Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling (KNOWTS) has enrolled 1,397 users from 114 countries, of whom 55 per cent are women. Through knowledge-sharing and live events, KNOWTS facilitated the engagement of UNODC experts with practitioners from 414 institutions worldwide, strengthening practitioners' networks.

28. In 2023, within the framework of the Global Action against Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants – Asia and the Middle East project, UNODC launched the “Study on illicit financial flows associated with smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons from GLO.ACT countries to Europe”.

29. UNODC also launched the policy brief entitled “Accessing justice: challenges faced by trafficked persons and smuggled migrants” and the Spanish-language version of *Let's Team Up against Human Trafficking*, a study about trafficking in persons in the context of football in Colombia.

30. In 2023, the Women's Network of Gender Champions against Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling carried out various activities envisaged in its Road Map to Action. The activities included workshops addressing the nexus between climate change and trafficking in persons, cyber-enabled trafficking in persons, and trafficking for the purpose of organ removal, as well as a workshop on resilience and stress management.

### **3. Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air**

31. In 2023, UNODC implemented the project named Turquesa, a joint initiative of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and UNODC aimed at dismantling, disrupting and bringing to justice organized criminal groups and networks engaged in the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons in the Americas. In November 2023, INTERPOL, with support from UNODC, conducted Operation Turquesa V, which led to 257 arrests, the rescue of 163 potential victims and the detection of nearly 12,000 irregular migrants from 69 countries. Over the five days of the operation, 33 countries conducted over 850,000 checks at transit points with the aim of disrupting transnational organized criminal groups profiting from smuggling routes to the United States of America and Canada.

32. In 2023, as a member of the Executive Committee of the United Nations Network on Migration, UNODC contributed to the Network's statement entitled “COP 28: there won't be efficient climate action without listening to peoples' voices”, which placed a strong emphasis on enhancing regular migration, rights-based migration responses and the meaningful inclusion of persons in vulnerable situations in related action.

33. In 2023, as co-leader of the Network's workstream on ensuring migrant protection through strengthened responses to migrant smuggling and increased coordination on its linkages with trafficking in persons, UNODC contributed to the publication entitled “Mapping the landscape of the smuggling of migrants: an overview of key concepts, trends, challenges and areas for action”.

34. Over the course of 2023, within the framework of the strengthening transregional action and responses against the smuggling of migrants (STARSOM) initiative, UNODC organized and facilitated three bilateral meetings and one transregional meeting between investigators, immigration officials and prosecutors

from countries along the transregional migrant smuggling route from South Asia to North America with a view to strengthening South-South cooperation.

35. In addition, UNODC published *The Scope of Transcontinental Migrant Smuggling from South Asia to North America*, which summarizes the findings emerging from the implementation of the STARSOM initiative over three years.

#### **4. Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition**

36. Through its Firearms Trafficking Section, UNODC provided legislative advice and drafting support to 16 States in strengthening firearms control regimes and criminal offences related to firearms criminality. This included tailored legislative assessments, gap analyses and drafting workshops, thus helping to reinforce legal frameworks in 13 States.

37. The Office finalized the development of a record-keeping software application entitled “goIFAR”, which serves as an integrated firearms registry system that can be used by States to track firearms throughout their life cycle, and conducted a mission in Honduras to customize the software to the country’s needs. In the Niger, UNODC handed over a storage warehouse for seized arms and ammunition to the National Gendarmerie.

38. The Office also supported national capacities to detect illegal firearms in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Guyana, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago and Ukraine. In the Western Balkans, UNODC identified as a priority issue firearms trafficking through postal and express courier parcels, developing a manual on X-ray detection and training customs authorities and postal operators to detect firearms, their parts and components and ammunition in postal packages. With UNODC support, eight memorandums of understanding between customs administrations and designated postal operators were signed to enhance cooperation and information exchange on firearms trafficking. In addition, 10 standard operating procedures on countering firearms trafficking by means of postal parcels were developed. UNODC has undertaken similar efforts in Latin America and the Caribbean.

39. UNODC launched the publication entitled *Guidelines on the Investigation and Prosecution of Firearms Offences*, which is available in six languages and is currently customized for the Western Balkans and the Caribbean. The Office also published the *Digest of Firearms Trafficking and Related Crimes Cases*.

40. UNODC delivered more than 30 specialized workshops and training courses to participants from 31 countries and supported countries in Africa and Latin America in investigating transnational firearms trafficking cases, promoting direct cooperation and information exchange and establishing joint and parallel investigative teams. With the support of UNODC, two law enforcement operations to counter firearms trafficking and related forms of crime were conducted, one in Africa (Operation KAFO IV) and one in Latin America (Operation Armstrong, conducted jointly with the European Multidisciplinary Platform against Criminal Threats (EMPACT) Firearms project), involving more than 2,300 officers from 11 countries.

41. The Office continued to promote regular exchanges between practitioners in the areas of firearms control and criminal justice. UNODC, jointly with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre and the Office of Counter-Terrorism, held a regional meeting of the Community of Practitioners against Firearms Trafficking and Related Crimes in Ankara. The meeting was focused on data collection, information-sharing and the operational use of data in cases of trafficking in small arms and light weapons and terrorism, and brought together participants from all Central Asian countries.

42. As part of its Monitoring Illicit Arms Flows initiative, the Office developed web-scraping technology to automatically collect and analyse information related to firearms seizures. Furthermore, UNODC organized two workshops on data collection, one for countries of the Caribbean region and one for countries of Central Asia and the Caucasus, and one sensitization workshop on data collection for African countries.

## **D. Networking to combat transnational organized crime**

### **1. Law enforcement networking**

43. In November 2023, the seventh meeting of the Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement initiative was held in Abu Dhabi, bringing together 129 representatives from Africa, Asia and Latin America. The discussions at the meeting led to the formulation of concrete recommendations aimed at helping legal practitioners and investigators dealing with cases of transboundary wildlife trafficking and the planning of Operation SAMA (Saving Wildlife through Multilateral Cooperation in Africa), to be conducted in 2024 and 2025.

44. The UNODC Global Programme on Criminal Network Disruption engaged with INTERPOL in the delivery of assistance and activities under the European Union-funded CRIMJUST project. The Global Programme also engaged with EMPACT to identify opportunities for collaborating and extending the reach of EMPACT and amplifying its impact, particularly in West Africa and Latin America. One result of that engagement was the participation of the Republican Police of Benin in the command centre of the EMPACT operational action days related to high-risk criminal networks at the headquarters of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol).

45. In Latin America, law enforcement agents engaged in EMPACT operational actions related to high-risk criminal networks and to cocaine, cannabis and heroin, and participated in joint capacity-building activities and investigative case forums. Furthermore, in Latin America, the Global Programme on Criminal Network Disruption cooperated with the International Police Cooperation Centre in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, through joint capacity-building activities and investigative case forums.

46. As part of efforts to map and disrupt criminal groups along trafficking routes, the Global Programme on Criminal Network Disruption convened expert working groups, bringing together national law enforcement officers and representatives of organizations such as the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, the Combined Maritime Forces, and the Trilateral Planning Cell based in Mozambique.

47. Supported by the Global Programme on Criminal Network Disruption, the Judicial Cooperation Network for Central Asia and Southern Caucasus (CASC Network) and the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre for combating the illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors collaborated to enhance cooperation and coordination between law enforcement authorities and prosecutors in the Central Asia and Southern Caucasus region. In the delivery of its capacity-building activities, the Global Programme engaged with various international law enforcement liaison officer networks.

### **2. Judicial networking**

48. UNODC, through its Global Programme on Implementing the Organized Crime Convention: from Theory to Practice, established the regional network of women in law and policy against organized crime in West and Central Africa. The network, which currently includes stakeholders from 13 countries in the region, aims at strengthening the representation and active participation of women in the development of legislation, policies and strategies against organized crime.

49. In 2023, the CASC Network, supported by the Global Programme on Criminal Network Disruption, facilitated regional, interregional and international cooperation in 20 cases, as well as contacts among central authorities within the Central Asia and Southern Caucasus region and between those central authorities and central authorities in the European Union, Africa, Latin America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. One of the main achievements of the CASC Network was the ratification of an international treaty between Italy and Uzbekistan.

50. The CASC Network secretariat held eight events focused on capacity-building and strengthening cooperation between networks, bringing together 180 practitioners working in the area of international cooperation and 20 international experts.

51. One of the highlights of 2023 for the CASC Network was the launch of a project component entitled “Digitalization of international legal cooperation processes in Uzbekistan”. The project is aimed at enhancing the technical capacity of the Prosecutor General’s Office in the country through the development of information technology solutions and policy tools for the electronic transmission of requests, as well as trend analysis and capacity-building in the field of transnational organized crime.

52. In 2023, UNODC, within the framework of the CRIMJUST project of the Global Programme on Criminal Network Disruption, provided support to the Ibero-American Association of Public Prosecutors (AIAMP), through two of its thematic networks, namely, the Ibero-American Network of Anti-Drug Prosecutors (RFAI) and the International Cooperation Network in Criminal Matters (REDCOOP), in organizing four case forums for prosecutors and investigators. The CRIMJUST project also supported prosecutors from the Specialized Meeting of Public Prosecutors of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), specifically the subcommittees on narco-criminality and border prosecutors.

53. Additionally, assistance was provided in organizing a virtual meeting in April 2023 to present the *Global Report on Cocaine 2023: Local Dynamics, Global Challenges*, a publication of the UNODC Research and Trend Analysis Branch and CRIMJUST, to national counterparts in Latin America and the Caribbean. In September 2023, support was provided to ensure the participation of prosecutors from AIAMP networks in an inter-agency and interregional training course on the challenges posed by cocaine production and trafficking, held in Tolima, Colombia. Support was also provided for the organization of an expert group meeting to develop a protocol for the protection and security of Ibero-American prosecutors, held from 29 November to 1 December 2023.

54. UNODC continued to support the Network of West African Central Authorities and Prosecutors against Organized Crime (WACAP) and its secretariat. In 2023, WACAP assisted Burkina Faso, the Gambia and Mali in updating their mutual legal assistance laws. It also supported the negotiation of bilateral agreements between Italy and the Niger, and between Mali and Guinea Bissau. In addition, WACAP organized joint operational meetings, including an ad hoc meeting between Cabo Verde, the Gambia, Mali and Sierra Leone related to the capsizing of a boat off the coast of the island of Boa Vista, Cabo Verde, carrying more than 100 migrants, including nationals of those countries, on board. In July 2023, WACAP supported a case involving Belgium and Guinea, which led to the extradition of a Belgian citizen.

55. To promote connections between judicial networks, WACAP members participated in a study visit to the headquarters of the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust), Europol and the European Judicial Network in June 2023. This led a number of countries to appoint focal points for cooperation with some of those networks. Cabo Verde, Chad, the Gambia, Ghana and Togo have appointed focal points to Eurojust.

56. During 2023, WACAP facilitated more than 100 cases of mutual legal assistance between West African countries and between West African countries and countries of other regions.

57. In 2023, WACAP held several training activities for its member States on the drafting of mutual legal assistance requests, as well as a training-of-trainers workshop on mutual legal assistance tools in the fight against trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, held in September 2023.



## **E. Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the field of new and emerging forms of crime**

58. Pursuant to Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 31/1, UNODC prepared and submitted a conference room paper to the Commission for consideration at its thirty-second session, in May 2023, in which it compiled contributions received from 60 Member States and the European Union on their views and possible responses, including the potential of an additional protocol to the Organized Crime Convention, to address any gaps that may exist in the current international legal framework to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in wildlife, as well as their relevant experiences, good practices and challenges. UNODC subsequently prepared an updated conference room paper containing contributions received from 13 additional Member States. A summary report in all six official languages of the United Nations is to be submitted to the Commission for consideration at its thirty-third session, in May 2024.

59. In 2023, the Global Programme on Cybercrime supported 67 Member States, training 6,618 law enforcement and criminal justice officials in combating cybercrime, including through the use of specialized digital forensic tools. The Programme engaged with 425,690 people, including children and young people, in awareness-raising events on cybercrime and related prevention activities. Of significance, 2023 also saw the establishment of the UNODC Regional Centre for Combating Cybercrime in Doha, which will operate as a centre of excellence providing capacity-building to Member States globally.

60. Pursuant to Security Council resolution 2692 (2023), UNODC submitted two reports providing updated information on sources and routes of illicit arms and financial flows in relation to Haiti, one on 18 October 2023 ([S/2023/780](#)), and one on 17 January 2024 ([S/2024/79](#)). The reports consider the context in which illicit arms, ammunition and financial flows are occurring in Haiti, outline routes of illicit trafficking into and out of the country, consider domestic trafficking patterns and provide recommendations. Such reports are transmitted every three months, concurrently with the reporting cycle of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti, in which UNODC reports on its capacity-building and technical assistance efforts in Haiti.

## **III. Corruption**

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

61. The tenth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption was held in Atlanta, United States, from 11 to 15 December 2023. The Conference was attended by more than 2,000 participants, both in person and online, representing 160 Member States and many international and non-governmental organizations. During the Conference, 67 special events were held on various anti-corruption issues. Actions taken by the Conference included the adoption of the following resolutions: (a) resolution 10/1, entitled “Atlanta 2023: promoting integrity, accountability and transparency in the fight against corruption”; (b) resolution 10/2, on strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in small island developing States; (c) resolution 10/3, on the follow-up to the Marrakech declaration on the prevention of corruption; (d) resolution 10/4, on methodologies and indicators for measuring corruption and the effectiveness of anti-corruption frameworks; (e) resolution 10/5, on measures to address corruption involving organized criminal groups; (f) resolution 10/6, on enhancing the use of beneficial ownership information to strengthen asset recovery; (g) resolution 10/7, on promoting international cooperation in civil and administrative proceedings related to corruption as provided in the United Nations Convention

against Corruption; (h) resolution 10/8, on the protection of reporting persons; (i) resolution 10/9, on promoting transparency and integrity in public procurement in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; (j) resolution 10/10, on addressing the societal impacts of corruption; (k) resolution 10/11, on the follow-up to the Sharm el-Sheikh declaration on strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery; and (l) resolution 10/12, on providing incentives for the private sector to adopt integrity measures to prevent and combat corruption. At the same session, the Conference adopted decision 10/1, entitled “Venue for the eleventh session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, and decision 10/2, entitled “Further extension of the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption” (see [CAC/COSP/2023/21](#)).

## **1. Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption**

62. The Implementation Review Group held its fourteenth and its resumed fourteenth sessions in Vienna from 12 to 16 June and from 4 to 8 September 2023, respectively. The Group considered, inter alia, the state of implementation of the Convention, the performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism, technical assistance and financial and budgetary matters. In accordance with Conference resolution 4/6, a briefing chaired by the Rapporteur of the Conference was held for non-governmental organizations on the margins of the fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group.

63. UNODC provided technical and substantive services to facilitate the efficient functioning of the Implementation Review Mechanism in 2023, providing training and assistance to governmental experts from States parties under review and reviewing States, supporting the country reviews and producing thematic reports on implementation trends and related technical assistance needs identified during the reviews.

64. At the time of reporting, 176 executive summaries of the country reports under the first cycle and 84 under the second cycle of the Implementation Review Mechanism had been completed and published. UNODC also provided technical assistance in response to the observations emanating from the reviews, including through the drafting of action plans, anti-corruption strategies and legislation, capacity-building and other ad hoc activities.

65. Since 2010, a total of \$18,174,000 in voluntary contributions has been received in support of the activities of the Implementation Review Mechanism. In-kind contributions to the operation of the Mechanism have been provided by 71 States parties.

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

66. The fourteenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption was held in Vienna from 14 to 16 June 2023. The Group discussed, inter alia, the interlinkages between preventive and law enforcement approaches, strengthening the role of supreme audit institutions in the prevention of and fight against corruption, and good practices, lessons learned and challenges in periodically evaluating the efficiency and the effectiveness of anti-corruption measures and policies. Under the multi-year workplan to ensure follow-up on the achievements of the political declaration entitled “Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation”, adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption held in 2021, the Working Group discussed measures to strengthen business integrity, including through the use of sanctions and incentives.

### 3. Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery

67. The seventeenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery was held in Vienna from 4 to 8 September 2023. The Working Group discussed, inter alia, practical aspects of asset recovery, including trends, challenges and good practices, and good practices and challenges with respect to the establishment of effective financial disclosure systems for appropriate public officials. Under the agenda item dedicated to the follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation, the Working Group focused on measures to prevent money-laundering.

### 4. Open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption

68. The twelfth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the Convention was held in Vienna from 4 to 8 September 2023. At the meeting, the implementation of chapter IV of the Convention was discussed, including the promotion of the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention and the development of non-binding guidelines for strengthening international and multilateral cooperation to further prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute corruption during times of emergency and crisis response and recovery.

## B. Promoting ratification and implementation of the Convention against Corruption

### 1. Tools and knowledge-building

69. UNODC contributed to the deliverables adopted by the Group of 20 (G20) Anti-Corruption Working Group, namely, high-level principles on promoting the integrity and effectiveness of public bodies and authorities responsible for preventing and combating corruption, on strengthening asset recovery mechanisms for combating corruption and on strengthening law enforcement-related international cooperation and information-sharing for combating corruption, and a compendium of good practices in enhancing the role of auditing in tackling corruption.

70. UNODC published Enhancing Collaboration between Supreme Audit Institutions and Anti-Corruption Bodies in Preventing and Fighting Corruption: A Practical Guide in November 2022. The guide, developed in cooperation with the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions and launched at the twenty-fourth International Congress of Supreme Audit Institutions, was translated into the other five official languages of the United Nations and published online in October 2023.

71. UNODC also issued two key publications in December 2023. *Rooting Out Corruption: An Introduction to Addressing the Corruption Fuelling Forest Loss* provides insights into the role and impact of corruption as it relates to forest loss, and the “Discussion draft for CoSP10: addressing the links between corruption and the response to climate change” invites further dialogue on how climate commitments are diminished by corruption.

72. Moreover, UNODC launched two publications in September 2023: A Prescription for Health: Assessing and Managing Corruption Risks in Public Health System Organizations and Something’s Off: Corruption Risks Related to Food Safety and Its Public Health Threat.

73. The Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge (TRACK) online portal,<sup>2</sup> a repository of anti-corruption resources and a library of legislation collected through the Implementation Review Mechanism, and other resources, was expanded

<sup>2</sup> Available at <https://track.unodc.org/>.

in 2023 and now features a database of gender-related publications. The portal is also a repository of information submitted by States parties and civil society on measures taken to follow up on the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption held in 2021.<sup>3</sup> The crime type “Corruption” was expanded in the legislation database of the SHERLOC platform.

## **2. Provision of technical assistance for the implementation of the Convention against Corruption**

74. UNODC provided tailored capacity-building and advisory services at the global, regional and national levels, and also provided technical assistance to 92 States parties by supporting the drafting of anti-corruption laws, strategies, policies and codes of conduct; assisting in the analysis and strengthening of asset declaration systems; supporting the prevention of corruption in the private sector; and organizing workshops on whistle-blower protection, international cooperation and capacity-building in criminal and financial investigations.

75. The Office deployed staff to respond more effectively to the increasing number of requests for technical assistance. The establishment of regional anti-corruption hubs consisting of teams of experts with experience in coordinating and responding to technical assistance requests at the regional and subregional levels, including in Colombia, Kenya, Mexico, South Africa and Thailand, enabled UNODC to support the fast-tracking of implementation of the Convention and fostered subregional and South-South cooperation. Experts and advisers with regional responsibilities were active in Fiji (for the Pacific), Serbia (for South-Eastern Europe) and Uzbekistan (for Central Asia). Country experts were stationed in Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines and Thailand.

76. UNODC worked with States in South-East Asia, East Africa, Southern Africa, South America and Mexico, the Western Balkans, and West Africa and the Sahel to implement priority recommendations through the regional platforms established to fast-track the implementation of the Convention. During the reporting period, three additional platforms were established, in Central America, the Caribbean and Central Asia.

77. In May 2023, UNODC, together with the Government of Angola, organized a regional conference to fast-track the implementation of the Convention in States members of the Southern African Development Community.

78. UNODC supported States’ efforts to address corruption in the health sector through the assessment and management of corruption risks, to protect whistle-blowers and to ensure transparency in public procurement. Assistance was provided in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Ghana, Mexico, South Africa and Timor-Leste.

### *Investigation and prosecution of corruption*

79. National and regional training events focusing on integrity, corruption investigations (including the use of open-source information to support such investigations), financial investigations and special investigative techniques were delivered to investigators, prosecutors and law enforcement officials in Argentina, Ecuador, Honduras, Qatar and Ukraine, as well as the State of Palestine.

80. UNODC supported countries in building their anti-corruption and financial investigation capacities. Tailored training events for anti-corruption authorities were held, including in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Viet Nam.

81. A regional workshop on financial investigations was delivered to officials from Argentina, Colombia and Paraguay.

<sup>3</sup> See <https://track.unodc.org/track/en/follow-up-process-to-ungass-2021/contributions.html>.

82. In Southern Africa, UNODC continued to support countries in strengthening inter-agency cooperation in the investigation and prosecution of corruption cases, particularly in South Africa and Zambia. That work resulted in the adoption of an inter-agency coordination framework in Zambia and the development of a policy framework and guidelines on information-sharing in South Africa.

83. In West Africa and the Sahel, UNODC supported the Financial Investigation Agency of Chad by analysing its standard operating procedures and organized a regional workshop on financial investigations and asset recovery in the framework of the regional platform for that region.

84. UNODC developed, in cooperation with INTERPOL and the International Olympic Committee (IOC), a publication entitled *Investigation of Cases of Competition Manipulation: A Practical Guide* and, in cooperation with IOC, a publication entitled “A practical guide to the prosecution of cases of competition manipulation”.

#### *Judicial integrity*

85. The Global Judicial Integrity Network promoted the sharing of experience and knowledge among judges and judiciaries with regard to existing and emerging challenges. In March 2023, the Network held awareness-raising activities on the occasion of the second International Day of Women Judges, including a high-level webinar on promoting the active participation of women in the judiciary. The Network disseminated its thematic knowledge products and tools, including non-binding guidelines on the use of social media by judges, a paper on gender-related judicial integrity issues, a guide to developing codes of judicial conduct, a judicial ethics training tool and a report on the linkages between judicial integrity and judicial well-being. The Network posted new content on its website ([www.unodc.org/ji](http://www.unodc.org/ji)), including opinion pieces, webinar recordings and other resources. In 2023, the Network partnered with various organizations and associations to organize judicial integrity-related events. UNODC provided judicial integrity-related technical assistance to Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Haiti and Peru.

#### *Prevention of corruption*

86. The Office supported States parties in developing measures to promote the transparency of the public service and in strengthening the protection of reporting persons. In 2023, three new regional platforms to fast-track the implementation of the Convention were established. As a result, there are now nine such platforms covering 69 jurisdictions across the world.

87. In October 2023, UNODC, in the framework of the regional platform for West Africa and the Sahel, held a regional workshop on the gender dimensions of corruption. The workshop addressed all thematic areas of the platform, namely, financial investigations, asset recovery, whistle-blower protection and integrity systems.

88. Through the regional platforms, UNODC provided technical assistance to many countries on issues pertaining to whistle-blower protection and the strengthening of reporting and protection systems. UNODC provided legislative, policy and drafting assistance to Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Malawi, South Africa and Zimbabwe aimed at advancing their whistle-blower protection laws. UNODC also strengthened its presence in international forums with a view to advancing global standards related to whistle-blower protection.

89. In Nigeria, UNODC, in partnership with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, provided support to the Nigeria Police Force in addressing problems of police impunity and building public trust, in particular by building the capacity of the Complaints Response Unit to receive, investigate and respond to public complaints of police misconduct.

90. UNODC provided technical assistance to the countries participating in the regional platform for Southern Africa in relation to asset declarations and conflicts of interest in public procurement. In Botswana and Malawi, the Office provided capacity-building on risk-based analysis of asset declarations, including with regard to enhancing asset declaration forms.

91. UNODC increased its efforts to support greater inclusivity and competition in public procurement and is about to launch a publication entitled “Women and public procurement: inclusion as a means to fight corruption” (currently available in Spanish), building on regional round tables held with key government stakeholders from Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Paraguay. In Malaysia, the Office partnered with the Center to Combat Corruption and Cronyism (C4), a civil society organization, to facilitate public discourse on public procurement through two public forums, resulting in the Government announcing that it would provisionally make its draft public procurement bill available to the public in advance for comments. Furthermore, the Office partnered with the South African National Anti-Corruption Advisory Council to strengthen anti-corruption measures provided for in the Public Procurement Bill introduced in the National Assembly of South Africa.

92. UNODC also promoted the application of information technologies and digitalization tools for combating corruption and continued to work closely with the Open Contracting Partnership. The Office’s collaboration with the Partnership was expanded in order to support technical assistance and mentorship for 30 countries with regard to open contracting and public procurement transparency, including ways to improve data quality, publish procurement data and link them to beneficial ownership information in an accessible format with a view to facilitating external monitoring. A regional workshop on public procurement and beneficial ownership transparency was held in July 2023, bringing together representatives from nine countries under the regional platform for South America and Mexico to identify challenges, engage in peer learning and determine how to address the identified challenges in the future.

93. UNODC supported the development of beneficial ownership transparency and verification tools, including through its implementing partnership with Open Ownership, together with which it trained officials from law enforcement agencies in South Africa on tools and methods for accessing, analysing and verifying beneficial ownership information. The training enhanced the agencies’ capacities to conduct effective financial investigations for the purpose of prosecuting beneficial owners involved in corruption and other related offences. In the Philippines, ongoing support provided to the Securities and Exchange Commission to strengthen the use of beneficial ownership data led to the conclusion of 18 data-sharing agreements with key institutions, as well as the delivery of specific training courses on beneficial ownership information for law enforcement authorities. In Indonesia, UNODC and Open Ownership, in partnership with the Ministry of Law and Human Rights, delivered a workshop on good practices in beneficial ownership verification, which will be implemented in developing a ministerial regulation, aligned with the targets set forth in the National Strategy on Corruption Prevention and Eradication, to improve data quality and verification. In partnership with Open Ownership, advisory services and technical assistance relating to beneficial ownership were provided to Ecuador, Madagascar and Malawi.

94. In late 2022 and throughout 2023, UNODC promoted cooperation between anti-corruption authorities and supreme audit institutions through multiple regional training workshops and webinars delivered to participants from 150 member countries representing all seven regional organizations of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions.

95. The Office integrated anti-corruption efforts into the work of the Global Programme on Crimes that Affect the Environment and Climate, including by providing support to 15 authorities responsible for the management of wildlife, forests and fisheries resources across 10 countries (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the

Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa and Uganda), in particular with regard to corruption risks and the implementation of risk mitigation strategies.

96. UNODC, through its Programme on Safeguarding Sport from Corruption and Economic Crime, organized or supported 24 events at the national, regional and international levels for over 1,000 participants from more than 90 countries in the framework of a project implemented jointly with IOC. UNODC also contributed to the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Integrity Task Force, which aimed at protecting the Women's World Cup 2023 in Australia and New Zealand from match manipulation and enhancing international cooperation among FIFA members.

97. UNODC and World Rugby co-organized an anti-corruption workshop for countries and national rugby unions that had qualified for the Rugby World Cup 2023 in France. UNODC also participated in a task force to exchange information and monitor matches of the tournament for integrity threats.

98. UNODC enhanced integrity in the private sector by promoting collective action and building the anti-corruption capacities of companies in Brazil, Colombia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iraq, Kenya, Libya, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the United Arab Emirates and Uzbekistan. Through a project carried out in Kenya, Mexico and Pakistan, UNODC increased collaboration between the private sector and academia to strengthen anti-corruption education for future private sector employees, reaching more than 38,000 students since the project's inception.

99. UNODC and the United Nations Global Compact cooperated on several business integrity activities in 2023, including webinars, conferences, training courses and communication campaigns. They also continued their joint series of global webinars to enhance knowledge of anti-corruption measures in the private sector, delivering webinars to 3,000 beneficiaries in 2023. They jointly organized the first-ever Private Sector Forum, held on the margins of the tenth session of the Conference and involving the participation of more than 200 beneficiaries. UNODC contributed to a session on business integrity held during the Global Compact Leaders Summit and supported the dissemination of a call to action from companies to Governments on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Convention, signed by more than 500 companies. UNODC and the Global Compact revised and renamed their e-learning tool for the private sector, which is to be launched as "Doing Business with Integrity" in 2024.

100. In South Africa, UNODC supported the National Anti-Corruption Advisory Council in the organization of a National Anti-Corruption Dialogue in November 2023. Opened by the President of South Africa, the dialogue gathered over 300 participants from the public sector, civil society, the private sector, academia and the media.

#### *Young people, education and civil society*

101. In 2023, UNODC continued to strengthen the role of non-governmental actors (young people, academic institutions and civil society organizations) in the fight against corruption by conducting regional dialogues, several events for young people, two "Coding4Integrity" hackathons and the fourth Anti-Corruption Academic Symposium. The Symposium brought together researchers from around the world, who presented their research on corruption-related issues, including on organized crime and corruption, to over 150 participants on the margins of the tenth session of the Conference.

102. In the framework of the regional platform for West Africa and the Sahel, UNODC organized a national workshop in Senegal to support the integration of anti-corruption modules into the curricula of the national education system.

103. UNODC, in partnership with the Royal Police Cadet Academy of the Royal Thai Police, organized an essay competition for cadets from Indonesia, the Philippines,



Thailand and Viet Nam. The winning essay highlighted the potential use of blockchain technology in preventing corruption in policing, and the winners from each country participated in special events held on the margins of the tenth session of the Conference.

104. UNODC supported the launch in December 2023 of the South-East Asian Anti-Corruption Network for Civil Society Organizations, chaired by the Knowledge Hub for Regional Anti-Corruption and Good Governance Collaboration at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand. The Network brings together 13 civil society organizations across 10 South-East Asian countries.

*International cooperation and asset recovery*

105. UNODC maintained a list of central authorities responsible for requests for mutual legal assistance designated in accordance with article 46, paragraph 13, of the Convention against Corruption. At the time of reporting, the list contained information on 164 authorities designated by 133 States.

106. The Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (Globe Network), established in 2021 under the auspices of UNODC, comprised 192 member authorities from 107 States as at 23 January 2024. The Network's secure communications solution for the exchange of operational information is available to 165 users from 73 countries. A standard form for requesting information facilitates the process of information exchange.

107. In 2023, the Globe Network continued to build the capacity of operational anti-corruption law enforcement authorities by providing a platform for various in-person and virtual knowledge sessions and by launching three new publications, the *Compendium of Practices on Informal Cooperation in Transnational Corruption Cases*, the "Networks digest", which contains an overview of States parties' membership in various practitioners' networks, and the *Directory of Open-Source Public Registries*.

108. In 2023, UNODC, through the Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative, worked with various countries to strengthen their capacities to trace, seize, freeze, confiscate and return assets involved in cases of corruption. StAR organized the Global Forum on Asset Recovery (GFAR) Action Series, launched by the United States, with France and the United Kingdom as co-hosts, and implemented in collaboration with the International Anti-Corruption Coordination Centre and the International Centre for Asset Recovery.

109. The Action Series is aimed at reinvigorating a practitioner-focused approach and making tangible progress in asset recovery and return by facilitating communication and negotiation among requested and requesting countries in specific ongoing cases. Eight focus countries had joined the Action Series as of December 2023: Algeria, Honduras, Iraq, Nigeria, the Republic of Moldova, Seychelles, Ukraine and Zambia. In the framework of the GFAR Action Series, over 65 bilateral and multijurisdictional meetings were held by the StAR Initiative on the margins of the tenth session of the Conference.

110. The StAR Initiative launched four new publications in 2023: *Asset and Interest Disclosure: A Technical Guide to an Effective Form*; *Unexplained Wealth Orders: Toward a New Frontier in Asset Recovery*; *Victims of Corruption: Back for Payback*; and *Managing Seized and Confiscated Assets: A Guide for Practitioners*. The StAR Initiative launched, during its special event held on the margins of the tenth session of the Conference, a new version of its unique, public Asset Recovery Watch database. The new database is available on the StAR Initiative website and contains data from 141 jurisdictions involved in asset recovery cases and documents from more than 560 international asset recovery cases. The cases cover a total value of \$16.5 billion in assets (either frozen, seized, confiscated or returned), of which \$10.1 billion have been returned worldwide.



### 3. Cooperation with other entities

111. UNODC worked closely on projects with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Global Compact and the Department of Peace Operations. At the global level, UNODC continued to serve as co-chair of the Global Task Force on Corruption, together with UNDP and the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, in order to strengthen United Nations coordination and consultation with respect to anti-corruption policy development and technical assistance further to the implementation of the United Nations common position to address global corruption. In partnership with the Department of Peace Operations, the Office furthered the preparation of practical guidance for United Nations country teams on the integration of anti-corruption measures in peace operations and special political missions. Joint projects, such as the StAR Initiative and the United Nations Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project, jointly implemented by UNDP and UNODC, provided technical assistance and new tools and resources to States parties and stakeholders.

112. UNODC continued its close coordination with the Council of Europe's Group of States against Corruption, the Organization of American States and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in their capacity as the secretariats of other anti-corruption review mechanisms. In 2023, this coordination was expanded to include the secretariats of the review mechanisms of the African Union Convention against Corruption and the Arab Anti-Corruption Convention, as well as the European Commission with regard to its role in publishing the Rule of Law Report.

113. UNODC supported regional and global efforts to strengthen public and private sector standards, including in partnership with the Alliance for Integrity, the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group, the integrity and compliance task force of the Business 20, the World Economic Forum Partnering against Corruption Initiative, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum and OECD, including the Anti-Corruption Task Team of the OECD Development Assistance Committee Network on Governance.

114. UNODC continued its collaboration with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Building Integrity Programme to strengthen integrity and anti-corruption efforts in the defence sector through participation in regular training events held at NATO facilities.

## IV. Recommendations

115. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice may wish to urge Member States to:

(a) Continue efforts for the effective implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto and the Convention against Corruption, including through the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of comprehensive and evidence-based policies and strategic frameworks, within the wider context of promoting the rule of law and better governance structures as key components of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 16, while considering gender-balanced approaches and empowering young people and civil society to engage in activities for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in cooperation with UNODC;

(b) Provide UNODC with adequate, predictable and sustainable funding to enable the Office to implement its mandated work in support of intergovernmental processes, such as the mechanisms for the review of the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto and of the Convention against Corruption, as well as strengthen international cooperation and enhance the implementation of the aforementioned instruments and the observations and

recommendations emanating from their review mechanisms; and further support the work of the Office in the field of capacity-building to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, tackle corruption and recover valuable State assets;

(c) Further strengthen South-South and North-South cooperation to address, in particular, transnational trafficking in persons along its routes, using existing, or establishing, networks of competent authorities to enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses and improve the exchange of good practices, experiences and challenges;

(d) Recognize, in line with target 16.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals, the interconnected dimensions of illicit arms flows, illicit financial flows and cybercrime as factors enabling organized crime, with a view to developing combined responses and strengthening international cooperation, including through parallel financial investigations, to address related challenges;

(e) Establish standard operating procedures to ensure that specialized firearms units work with financial intelligence units, arms control authorities and tax authorities at the domestic and international levels to detect, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate offences involving illicit arms flows, accompanying money-laundering schemes and corruption.

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