



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

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## Report on the meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption held in Vienna from 22 to 24 August 2016

### I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 3/2, the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption decided to establish an interim open-ended intergovernmental working group, in accordance with article 63, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and rule 2, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure of the Conference, to advise and assist the Conference in the implementation of its mandate on the prevention of corruption.
2. In that resolution, the Conference also decided that the Working Group should perform the following functions:
  - (a) Assist the Conference in developing and accumulating knowledge in the area of prevention of corruption;
  - (b) Facilitate the exchange of information and experience among States on preventive measures and practices;
  - (c) Facilitate the collection, dissemination and promotion of best practices in corruption prevention;
  - (d) Assist the Conference in encouraging cooperation among all stakeholders and sectors of society in order to prevent corruption.
3. In its resolution 6/6, entitled “Follow-up to the Marrakech declaration on the prevention of corruption”, the Conference welcomed the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption, in particular the substantive discussions in relation to the different provisions of chapter II of the Convention. The Conference noted with appreciation the achievements of the Working Group in facilitating the sharing of information between States parties on their initiatives and good practices, and encouraged States parties to continue to share with the Secretariat new and updated information and good practices on their implementation of that chapter.



4. In the same resolution, the Conference welcomed the commitment made and efforts undertaken by States parties to provide information on good practices in preventing corruption that is gathered, systematized and disseminated by the Secretariat in the performance of its functions as an international observatory, and requested States parties to continue sharing information. The Conference also requested the Secretariat, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to continue its work as an observatory, including by updating the thematic website of the Working Group with relevant information.

5. In its resolution 6/7, entitled “Promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, the Conference requested that the relevant subsidiary bodies discuss promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention in order to facilitate public sector transparency and combat corruption and draw up a list of best practices on how to enhance and promote such use.

6. In its resolution 6/6, the Conference requested the Secretariat to continue, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, partners and donors, to develop studies, training materials, guides and tools for Governments and sports organizations to enable them to further strengthen measures in the area of protecting integrity in sport.

7. In its resolution 6/1, entitled “Continuation of the review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, the Conference requested the Secretariat to structure the provisional agendas of the subsidiary bodies established by the Conference in such a way as to avoid the duplication of discussions, while respecting their mandates. Consistent with those resolutions, and as endorsed by the extended Bureau of the Conference at its meeting on 29 April 2016, the Working Group, at its seventh session, focused its attention on the following topics:

(a) The use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention in order to facilitate public sector transparency and combat corruption;

(b) The protection of integrity in sport by promoting good governance in sport and mitigating the risk of corruption that sport faces.

## **II. Conclusions and recommendations**

8. The Working Group acknowledged the progress that had been made in the implementation of Conference resolution 6/6 and underlined the need to maintain those efforts.

9. The Working Group recommended that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) should continue its support to States parties to strengthen their implementation of chapter II of the Convention, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, including through the development of new knowledge products and training materials.

10. The Working Group encouraged UNODC to continue providing tailored capacity-building, upon request and subject to extrabudgetary resources, on

anti-corruption preventive measures and in identifying comparative good practices for the prevention of corruption. Moreover, the Working Group encouraged States to share further information and material on their implementation of chapter II and the prevention of corruption with the Secretariat, to be published on the thematic web pages of the Working Group.

11. The Working Group welcomed the documents and tools made available online by the Secretariat on the thematic web page of the Working Group, and urged States to make use of existing information and to continue sharing information.

12. The Working Group acknowledged the progress that had been made by States parties in using information and communications technologies to promote the implementation of the Convention and in implementing Conference resolution 6/7, and underlined the need to maintain these efforts and assist States parties in overcoming related difficulties. The Working Group encouraged States parties to continue sharing information on how they use information and communications technologies to facilitate public sector transparency and to prevent corruption.

13. The Working Group recommended that States ensure that the necessary legislation is in place and that sufficient resources and staff be provided to relevant bodies in order to strengthen integrity in sport, in particular by supporting relevant prevention, enforcement and educational activities.

14. The Working Group recommended that States parties should consider taking appropriate legislative, administrative and capacity-building measures, including those to promote cooperation, coordination and the exchange of information between relevant government agencies and national and international sport organizations, in order to prevent corruption more efficiently and effectively.

15. The Working Group requested the Secretariat, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to continue efforts to promote integrity in sport, good governance in sport and mitigate the risk of corruption that sport faces, including by developing a comprehensive and global programme and by developing studies, training materials, guides and tools for Governments, sports organizations and other relevant stakeholders.

16. The Working Group underlined the urgency of providing sufficient extrabudgetary resources to UNODC to assure the continued provision of technical assistance to strengthen the implementation of chapter II of the Convention and the relevant Conference resolutions, and called upon States parties and other donors to reconfirm their commitment to the prevention of corruption, for example, through the provision of soft-earmarked and multi-year financial contributions.

17. The Working Group also requested UNODC to intensify its efforts to provide technical assistance to States parties, upon request and subject to extrabudgetary resources, in coordination with bilateral and multilateral technical assistance providers, particularly in developing countries.

18. The Working Group agreed on thematic topics for inclusion in the provisional agenda of its next session in 2017: education in schools and universities on anti-corruption efforts (art. 13, para. 1 (c)); and integrity in criminal justice institutions (arts. 7, 8 and 11).

19. The Working Group suggested that the Conference provide guidance on additional topics for discussion in the Working Group in sessions subsequent to 2017, while acknowledging a need for flexibility to react to possible global trends and challenges which may be identified under the Implementation Review Mechanism and which might call for a substantive discussion by the Working Group. The suggested thematic topics are: measuring corruption, corruption risks and the impact of anti-corruption efforts using scientifically-based indicators; the use and effectiveness of asset declaration systems and conflict of interest regulations to prevent corruption (art. 7, para. 4; and art. 8, para. 5); measures and systems to facilitate reporting by public officials (art. 8, para. 4) and public reporting (art. 13, para. 2); and lessons learned on the development, evaluation and impact of anti-corruption strategies (art. 5).

### **III. Organization of the meeting**

#### **A. Opening of the meeting**

20. The Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption held its seventh meeting in Vienna from 22 to 24 August 2016. The meetings of the Working Group were chaired by the President of the Conference of the States Parties, Alexander Konovalov (Russian Federation), and Vice-President Andrés Lamoliatte Vargas (Chile).

21. In opening the meeting, the President recalled Conference resolutions 6/1, 6/6 and 6/7. He highlighted the importance of the meeting's interactive discussions and the sharing of good practices in the prevention of corruption and introduced the thematic discussions on information and communications technologies and integrity in sport.

22. The Secretariat underscored that the provisions of chapter II are essential to promoting transparency, integrity and good governance. These principles were further reflected in the unprecedented five resolutions adopted by the Conference at its previous session that focused on preventive measures, namely, resolution 6/5, entitled "St. Petersburg statement on promoting public-private partnership in the prevention of and fight against corruption"; resolution 6/6, entitled "Follow-up to the Marrakech declaration on the prevention of corruption"; resolution 6/7, entitled "Promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption"; resolution 6/8, entitled "Prevention of corruption by promoting transparent, accountable and efficient public service delivery through the application of best practices and technological innovations"; and resolution 6/10, entitled "Education and training in the context of anti-corruption". It was further noted that the Working Group, since its first meeting in 2010, had provided States with the opportunity to share practices, lessons learned and expertise regarding the prevention of corruption.

23. The Secretariat also introduced the documents of the session. The background papers on the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (CAC/COSP/WG.4/2016/2) and on integrity in sport (CAC/COSP/WG.4/2016/3)

had been prepared on the basis of the responses submitted by States following a request by the Secretariat for information. Those reports reflected the information received as at 18 May 2016 from 27 States. An additional nine submissions had been received after that date. With the agreement of those States concerned, all but one of the submissions had been made available on both the official website for this meeting of the Working Group and on the thematic website of the Working Group. A background paper on the status of implementation of Conference resolution 6/6 was also prepared (CAC/COSP/WG.4/2016/4), outlining the work of the Secretariat in cooperation with States parties to implement the resolution.

24. The representative of Tunisia, speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, reaffirmed the commitment of African States to fight corruption and illicit financial flows, noting that they were an impediment to the achievement of sustainable development. He called for strengthened coordination between national authorities and other stakeholders in preventing corruption. He highlighted the importance of the Working Group as a platform for exchanging information and experiences and noted that he looked forward to the implementation of the recommendations of the Working Group. He further underlined the need for technical assistance to be provided upon request to allow States to better implement the Convention.

25. The representative of the European Union underscored that corruption undermined the rule of law and sustainable development. The speaker reported that the European Union engaged in anti-corruption efforts both inside and outside the European Union. The importance of involving civil society in the prevention of and fight against corruption was highlighted, as were a number of specific topics in prevention such as access to information, judicial integrity and the protection of reporting persons.

26. The representative of Uruguay, speaking on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, noted the importance of promoting the participation of society, including the private sector, in efforts to prevent and fight corruption. He stated that the Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption had served as a platform for mutual learning. He highlighted the importance of technical assistance to strengthen capacities to prevent and combat corruption and called for enhanced assistance to medium-income countries in order to advance the implementation of chapter II of the Convention.

27. The Minister of Institutional Transparency and the Fight against Corruption of the Plurinational State of Bolivia highlighted the importance of preventing corruption by enhancing access to information through the use of technology. She outlined a number of initiatives in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, including an electronic access to information tool known as “Mi Plataforma” and seven computer games for children distributed to primary schools. In addition, two platforms were created to facilitate the detection of corruption: one, the integrated system for anti-corruption information and asset recovery (SIARBE), allowed the Ministry to have online access to public records, while the other, the system for the compilation of information of financial entities (SIRIEFI), compiled financial information and supported the investigation of corruption offences. Lastly, she referred to the Ministry’s work with youth groups to promote a culture of transparency.

## **B. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

28. On 22 August, the Working Group adopted the following agenda:
1. Organizational matters:
    - (a) Opening of the meeting;
    - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
  2. Implementation of Conference resolutions 6/6, entitled “Follow-up to the Marrakech declaration on the prevention of corruption”, and 6/7, entitled “Promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”:
    - (a) Good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption:
      - (i) The use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention in order to facilitate public sector transparency and combat corruption;
      - (ii) The protection of integrity in sport by promoting good governance in sport and mitigating the risk of corruption that sport faces;
    - (b) Other recommendations.
  3. Future priorities.
  4. Adoption of the report.

## **C. Attendance**

29. The following States parties to the Convention were represented at the meeting of the Working Group: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Yemen.
30. Japan, a State signatory to the Convention, was represented.

31. The European Union, a regional economic integration organization that is a party to the Convention, was represented at the session.

32. The following Secretariat units, programmes and specialized agencies were represented by observers: United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, International Fund for Agricultural Development and United Nations Development Programme.

33. The following intergovernmental organizations were also represented: Commonwealth Secretariat, Council of Europe, European Public Law Organization, International Anti-Corruption Academy, International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), International Olympic Committee (IOC), League of Arab States, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative and Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

#### **IV. Implementation of Conference resolution 6/6, entitled “Follow-up to the Marrakech declaration on the prevention of corruption”, and 6/7, entitled “Promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”**

##### **A. Good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption**

###### **1. The use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention in order to facilitate public sector transparency and combat corruption**

34. The Chair introduced the substantive discussion of the item, in relation to which the Secretariat had prepared a background paper (CAC/COSP/WG.4/2016/2).

35. The Secretariat thanked Member States for the information they had provided in advance of the meeting which focused on using information and communications technologies (ICT) to promote integrity in public procurement and the management of public finances (article 9 of the Convention), to strengthen public reporting mechanisms and the provision of public services (article 10 of the Convention) and to promote the participation of society (article 13 of the Convention). In relation to public procurement, States actively engaged in using ICT tools ranging from the publication of procurement notices on government websites to establishing procurement portals with templates of documents and to fully integrated electronic solutions allowing for paperless electronic procurement. A number of States reported that they had moved from systems which only passively provided information to systems which allowed for interaction with users.

36. In the area of public reporting, States parties noted the extensive use of ICT in the form of centralized transparency portals and websites of individual government bodies to provide information to the public and to seek feedback, as well as using e-government solutions to simplify administrative procedures. In the area of the participation of society, the States parties reported that they actively used institutionalized online consultation mechanisms, as well as government websites

and mobile telephone applications, to stimulate public debate and allow citizens and civil society to provide input into government policymaking. States also reported promoting open data, awareness-raising through media campaigns and online education and gaming applications and establishing websites and mobile phone applications to facilitate the reporting of corruption.

37. A panellist from Slovenia gave a presentation on the use of ICT to manage government procurement and provide information to the public. He reported on a publicly accessible web application that was launched to inform the public about government spending by allowing users to examine all budget transfers made by Slovenian public bodies and publicly owned companies. The speaker underlined that the transparency of financial flows in the public and private sectors strengthened the accountability of public officials, facilitated public debate on future projects and decreased the risk of irregularities and mismanagement.

38. A panellist from Mauritius gave a presentation on how ICT was used to promote transparency, competition and the use of objective criteria in decision-making in the procurement process in order to strengthen integrity in procurement. The speaker also described the corruption prevention reviews that were conducted by the country's Independent Commission against Corruption and outlined common recommendations relating to ICT that were made as a result of those reviews.

39. Panellists from Mexico gave a presentation on the development of an online system for filing claims and complaints against public servants which allowed complaints to be filed online or by telephone 24 hours a day, upload documents to support those claims, identify the competent authority for handling the complaint, and follow the progress of the investigation. A presentation was also given on the implementation of an online public procurement system which allowed for public tenders and contracts to be processed electronically, thereby expanding the potential providers and contractors and allowing for the monitoring of the procurement process.

40. During the ensuing discussion, many speakers reported that their countries had used ICT to improve transparency and objectivity and strengthen competition in procurement, in order to facilitate public reporting and promote the participation of society. A number of countries referred to adopting specialized legislation and establishing specialized bodies responsible for introducing ICT in order to streamline the provision of public services to the private sector and citizens and to limit opportunities for corruption.

41. Many speakers highlighted how the establishment and use of web-based procurement systems, including centralized online portals, strengthened the implementation of the principles of transparency, objectivity and competition in procurement. Some countries had adopted online systems for the entire procurement process that included the dissemination of procurement notices, processing of bids, publication of contracts awarded and lists of authorized contractors. Such systems allowed for the monitoring of the implementation of the contracts in order to detect irregularities and the blacklisting of contractors who violated the procurement rules. Several speakers also noted that the use of e-procurement had led to the standardization of the contracts, forms, catalogues and procedures that were used in the public procurement process.



42. It was also reported that ICT contributed to the overall effective management of public funds by providing access to information regarding various categories of expenditures through the use of electronic invoices, including in relation to the financing of political parties and unions. Several speakers referred to the introduction of integrated financial management systems in which all payments were handled by a single public body and through the Internet, without human contact, in order to increase transparency and accountability in the management of public finances. Speakers further underlined the use of mobile telephone payment systems for payment of public services.

43. Speakers described how efforts to strengthen the transparency of governmental data and access to information had improved government accountability. It was further noted that using ICT improved the response time for requests for public information. One speaker highlighted the importance of the open data concept and the need to ensure that data were published in machine-readable formats to maximize the utility of the data.

44. It was noted that allowing access to draft legislation and regulations online fostered public participation and was an important public consultation tool which improved the overall quality of legislation.

45. Speakers described how Internet portals were used by different public bodies to provide information on their structure, documents and administrative services as well as to receive complaints. Some speakers noted that a paperless approach to interactions between the public and government had led to increased efficiency and improved trust between the citizens and the public service. Speakers explained how e-government contributed to a reduction of administrative delays and prevented the abuse of discretionary powers by public officials. Its use further strengthened the capacity of governmental authorities to carry out oversight functions and to detect any irregularities.

46. Speakers also described how the use of ICT further contributed to the increased accessibility of public services. One speaker noted how the use of ICT in health management services strengthened the public's access to public health-care services, particularly in rural areas.

47. It was further noted that ICT improved cooperation between the government and the private sector and helped to prevent the misuse of procedures regulating private entities. It was noted that technical assistance would be beneficial in some cases, and, upon request, for States seeking to build capacity and expertise in this regard.

48. Some speakers highlighted the benefits of ICT in ensuring the transparency of the public administration, including in relation to personnel issues such as recruitment in the public service, increasing outreach and efficiency in advertising vacancies and processing applications.

49. It was reported that the use of ICT and the development of e-learning modules for public servants, both on initial appointment and throughout their career, helped to strengthen the integrity and professionalism of the general public service, as well as specialized public institutions such as the police and other law enforcement bodies.

50. Social media such as Facebook, Twitter, WeChat and blogs were used by an increasing number of States to disseminate information to the public and provide information on government processes, thereby fostering public participation. Such platforms were also used to facilitate public reporting of instances of corruption, connecting the public directly with anti-corruption agencies and investigation bodies. The use of mobile phone technology and smart phone applications was also noted positively in the engagement of the public in the prevention, detection and reporting of corruption.

51. Some speakers explained how the effective use of ICT contributed to strengthening the asset and interest disclosure mechanisms, thus assisting in detecting illicit enrichment and identifying potential conflicts of interest. It was also noted that the use of ICT to provide public access to asset declarations of public officials had contributed to increased transparency and accountability.

52. Some speakers reported how the use of ICT, including through the introduction of case management systems and e-filing of court documents improved the efficiency and transparency of the justice system. It was also noted that ICT improved access to justice and contributed to a general openness of the justice system, thereby increasing public confidence in the outcomes of cases and court processes.

53. Some speakers described the use of ICT to strengthen inter-agency coordination and information-sharing in the prevention and detection of corruption. Benefits of the use of ICT for border management and control, cooperation between law enforcement bodies, land registration and tax collection were also noted. Speakers further highlighted that the effective use of ICT could facilitate international cooperation and the provision of mutual legal assistance.

54. Several speakers described how the Internet was used to raise awareness of the dangers of corruption and on the efforts of specialized anti-corruption bodies and other relevant government agencies to address it, by reporting on the outcomes of corruption investigations and complaints by citizens. One speaker reported that the prosecution service regularly used ICT and Internet services to detect instances of corruption.

55. Speakers noted that ICT contributed to effective multi-sectoral approaches to the prevention of corruption, including through engagement between national authorities and institutions, and regional and municipal administrative structures.

56. Some speakers reported on efforts to actively engage citizens, civil society, religious leaders and community-based organizations by seeking inputs and feedback through online portals and through sociological surveys. Several speakers noted the importance of ICT as a tool to provide feedback and to make suggestions on the effectiveness and efficiency of public service delivery as well as to hold government institutions accountable. Speakers also emphasized the benefits of the use of ICT in strengthening the role of the media in countering corruption.

57. Speakers outlined a number of innovative approaches to strengthen integrity among young people by promoting anti-corruption education at the primary and secondary school levels and by using tools such as mobile phone applications and specialized games, some of which had been developed in cooperation with students and educators. In particular, speakers pointed out the importance of ICT and

education in the development and strengthening of a culture of integrity and transparency. Some speakers expressed a need for technical assistance in this regard.

58. Several speakers emphasized a number of challenges in introducing ICT solutions, including in relation to data protection requirements and to practical challenges associated with the levels of Internet penetration in the country, the capacity of government authorities and the availability of human and financial resources to introduce and manage information technology solutions.

59. One speaker underlined the importance of further studying and measuring the impact of ICT on the level of corruption and proposed that the matter be considered by the Working Group.

60. A representative of the International Anti-Corruption Academy underlined the importance of the prevention of corruption and gave examples of the support that the Academy gave to countries through the provision of training. A representative of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law reported on efforts to promote transparency, competition and objective decision-making in public procurement, noting that e-procurement reduced costs and increased the effectiveness of procurement.

## **2. The protection of integrity in sport by promoting good governance in sport and mitigating the risk of corruption that sport faces**

61. The Chair introduced the substantive discussion of the item, for which the Secretariat had prepared a background note (CAC/COSP/WG.4/2016/3).

62. The Secretariat thanked Member States for the information they had provided in advance of the meeting and noted that the contributions had focused on preventive measures adopted by States to promote good governance and mitigate the risk of corruption in sport and enforcement activities of relevant stakeholders in relation to offences linked to sport. Recent efforts undertaken by UNODC to support States in those areas were highlighted, including the development of a global programme on integrity in sport, the development, with IOC, of a booklet entitled *Model Criminal Law Provisions for the Prosecution of Competition Manipulation*, as well as the launch of the *Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Investigation of Match-Fixing*, developed in partnership with the International Centre for Sport Security.

63. A panellist from Brazil provided a presentation on practices used to improve transparency and public access to information related to the hosting of major sporting events. Brazil developed a transparency portal which provided free access to relevant budget data, open contracts, licences, schedules and responsibilities, among other important information. In particular, he highlighted that federal decrees had created legal obligations for public bodies to report spending on the 2014 FIFA World Cup and on the 2016 Olympic Games. The speaker further referred to the establishment of a transparency chamber which consisted of representatives of civil society, host cities and officials from sporting federations who discussed transparency standards, including budget allocations and the effect of preparatory activities on local populations.

64. A panellist from China gave a presentation on ensuring the cost-effectiveness and the integrity of the management of the Olympic Games held in Beijing in 2008.

A supervisory system consisting of a discipline inspection commission responsible for upholding the applicable rules and regulations had been set up alongside the games organizing committee. Strong financial management oversight was established as a way to ensure that special sports funds were used appropriately and exclusively for their intended purpose. With regard to competitions and athletes, he underlined the importance of the use of monitoring systems and effective selection processes, as well as the fight against doping in sport.

65. A panellist from Panama provided an overview of measures taken to prevent money-laundering in the football sector. Based on structural, cultural and financial vulnerabilities that had been exploited in the past to enable money-laundering in football, a set of countermeasures had been developed. The measures included training, the establishment of inter-institutional focal points, a legislative gap analysis, and enhanced scrutiny of financial accounts of football clubs.

66. A panellist from Italy provided a presentation on efforts to develop integrated mechanisms for cooperation between public and private sector actors to identify sports betting risks. The speaker presented Italian practices to address match-fixing, highlighting developments and good practices involving the judiciary, legislation, interaction between public and private bodies and the role of non-governmental organizations, academia and investigative journalists. Finally, the importance of international cooperation in combating match-fixing was underlined.

67. A panellist from IOC provided an overview of initiatives undertaken in the area of competition manipulation. Information was also presented on support provided for legislative efforts to combat this problem, in particular the IOC-UNODC booklet on *Model Criminal Law Provisions for the Prosecution of Competition Manipulations*. In addition, the IOC Code of Ethics and activities to raise awareness and build capacity, as well as tools IOC had developed to help monitor suspicious sport-related activities and conduct effective investigations were highlighted. The speaker also emphasized the importance of effective cooperation between relevant organizations in promoting integrity in sport.

68. Many speakers highlighted how the increasing professionalization and expansion of the sports industry had been accompanied by an increased number of illicit activities which were significant both in terms of scale and related risks, and which often had an international dimension.

69. Several speakers reported on their recent legislative reforms to enhance the effectiveness of their legal frameworks to promote integrity in sport by criminalizing specific offences linked to sport, such as sports betting fraud, corruption in sport and the manipulation of sports competitions or results.

70. Some speakers referred to the increasing prioritization given to crimes involving sport by law enforcement and anti-corruption agencies. It was highlighted that institutional reforms included the creation of specialized units within national police forces and prosecution services to combat match-fixing and the involvement of organized crime in sport. One speaker noted that legislation was amended to allow law enforcement agencies and prosecutors to use special investigative techniques in match-fixing cases. A number of speakers reported on ongoing and completed criminal prosecutions relating to corruption in sport and underlined the importance of financial investigations and asset recovery efforts.

71. Several speakers referred to the establishment of specialized national bodies and coordination mechanisms to promote good governance, as well as to the importance of monitoring sport events for possible corruption.

72. Several speakers highlighted the importance of international cooperation and the development of tools and initiatives to support the efforts of both States and sports organizations. The importance of using the Convention as a framework to guide international efforts on issues related to international cooperation, as well as prevention, oversight, accountability and transparency, in sport was repeatedly underlined. Some speakers stressed the importance of interregional cooperation and the need to build trust and the exchange of information between countries as key to further strengthening effective international cooperation in the area of sport.

73. A number of speakers referred to the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions. The Convention covered issues related to match-fixing such as corruption, money-laundering, organized crime and other offences and encouraged the development of national multi-stakeholder platforms to facilitate cooperation in tackling sports manipulation.

74. Reference was made to efforts undertaken to help address weaknesses in the administrative organization of sports organizations and their communications with public bodies. States also reported on efforts to strengthen standards of transparency, integrity and accountability in sports clubs, particularly in the area of financial reporting on the use of public funding. Reference was made to the ongoing efforts to put in place systems of financial accountability to ensure the proper use of public funds.

75. Many speakers highlighted educational, extracurricular and training activities such as workshops, campaigns and youth activities to raise awareness of corruption risks, enhance clean competition and fair play, and create a culture of integrity in sports. Some speakers stressed the importance of efforts to prevent doping, including through education and awareness-raising campaigns.

76. Due to the evolving complexity and transnational nature of sport-related crime, emphasis was placed on the need to enhance mutual legal assistance among States in such criminal cases and to ensure continuous training and other forms of capacity-building such as the exchange of good practices and lessons learned. In addition, several speakers emphasized the importance of awareness-raising activities within the broader community with respect to international standards on the prevention of money-laundering. Some speakers highlighted the importance of providing technical assistance to support integrity in sport and noted the potential role of UNODC in that regard.

77. A representative of the Council of Europe emphasized that, while the Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions had only been ratified by Norway and Portugal, it was open for ratification by States outside of the Council of Europe. She further underlined the need for cooperation between international organizations as well as States.

## **B. Report on the status of implementation of Conference resolution 6/6 and other recommendations**

78. The President introduced the item on the implementation of Conference resolution 6/6 and other recommendations, in relation to which the Secretariat had prepared a background paper (CAC/COSP/WG.4/2016/4). The Secretariat presented an update on the implementation of resolution 6/6, with a focus on information-sharing, the development of new UNODC knowledge tools and national, regional or global initiatives taken by States parties with the support of UNODC.

79. The Secretariat reported on its activities in fulfilment of its role as an international observatory for good practices in the prevention of corruption and noted that it had continued to update the website of the Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption. UNODC supported the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities and various regional associations of anti-corruption authorities, in particular in Africa, South-East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

80. The Secretariat provided information on its multiple technical assistance initiatives at the national, regional and global levels to support States parties in the prevention of corruption. UNODC had developed a new guide, entitled *National Anti-Corruption Strategies: A Practical Guide for Development and Implementation*, which had been downloaded over 5,000 times since its launch in November 2015, and assisted 12 States parties in the development or revision of national anti-corruption strategies.

81. In regard to whistle-blower protection, UNODC reported that it had produced a new knowledge product, entitled *Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Protection of Reporting Persons*. Based on the *Resource Guide*, UNODC had held two regional training workshops for South-East Asia and small island developing States and had provided legislative drafting assistance to countries.

82. Further, UNODC had provided technical assistance and expertise to States parties on the implementation of the Convention through targeted legislative and capacity-building activities at regional and country levels, including on asset declaration and conflict of interest regulation systems, access to information, procurement and strengthening the role of parliamentarians in the fight against corruption.

83. UNODC highlighted that it had also carried out initiatives on the prevention of corruption in the criminal justice sector. In addition to national-level initiatives for judicial integrity, UNODC had launched in 2016 a new global project to assist States in the implementation of article 11 of the Convention and the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct. The project aimed, inter alia, to establish a global judicial integrity network harnessing the expertise and experience of national and regional associations of judges, prosecutors and judicial administration officials. Additionally, UNODC had supported initiatives at the national and regional levels to strengthen integrity and prevent corruption in law enforcement organizations, including in police, customs, border control and prisons authorities.

84. UNODC reported that it had continued to promote the participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, including civil society, media and youth, in the prevention of corruption. For example, UNODC and the United Nations Development Programme held regional and national workshops for Pacific region civil society organizations, and, in Africa and the Pacific, UNODC had also supported workshops for journalists on the media's role in fighting corruption.

85. UNODC continued its leading role in the Anti-Corruption Academic Initiative,<sup>1</sup> including through the further development of the model university course on the Convention, which was now available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish, and the organization of two global meetings. UNODC reported that it had launched a new global project on education for justice (E4J) which would enable synergies with the Anti-Corruption Academic Initiative and include components on education on criminal justice, the rule of law and preventing and combating corruption, for primary and secondary schools, as well as for universities.

86. In January 2016, UNODC had launched two new e-learning modules on anti-corruption, entitled "Introduction to anti-corruption and prevention of corruption", for which over 2,500 users had registered. UNODC had also engaged in anti-corruption work in areas which had gained increasing recognition such as integrity in sports and the fight against environmental and wildlife crime.

## V. Future priorities

87. The President introduced the discussion of future priorities and drew the attention to the mandate of the Working Group to advise and assist the Conference.

88. The Secretariat referred to the Working Group's previous workplan for the period 2012-2015, in which the Group focused on two specific substantive topics relevant to the implementation of the articles in chapter II of the Convention in each of its annual meetings. The Secretariat noted that the Working Group may wish to chart a course of action for the future work of the Working Group, including suggestions of topics for the upcoming thematic discussions.

89. Taking into consideration the proposed multi-year workplan of the Implementation Review Group (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/CRP.2), the specific topics that were discussed in previous years by the Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption and the growing amount of information and knowledge that would be accumulated through the operation of the second review cycle, the Secretariat had developed a list of proposed subjects for the next three years, with the understanding that there would be room to add topics or to amend those that had been suggested.

90. The topics suggested by the Secretariat were as follows: for 2017, reporting measures and systems for public officials (art. 8, para. 4) and public reporting (art. 13, para. 2), and integrity in the security sector (arts. 7 and 8); for 2018, the use and effectiveness of asset declaration systems and conflict of interest regulations to

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<sup>1</sup> [www.track.unodc.org/Education/Pages/home.aspx](http://www.track.unodc.org/Education/Pages/home.aspx).

prevent corruption (art. 7, para. 4; and art. 8, para. 5), and lessons learned on the development, evaluation and impact of anti-corruption strategies (art. 5); and, for 2019, education in schools and universities on anti-corruption (art. 13, para. 1 (c)), and judicial and prosecutorial integrity (art. 11).

91. Several speakers welcomed the initiative of the Secretariat to present a draft workplan for discussion and provided comments on possible modifications and additional ideas. Some speakers suggested that the subject of judicial integrity should be addressed sooner due to the importance of that topic for the fight against corruption. It was further proposed to combine that topic with the proposed topic of integrity in the security sector.

92. A number of speakers requested that the scope of integrity in the security sector should be better defined, and it was suggested, for example, to consider limiting it to integrity in law enforcement or prison management. Several States parties supported a broad interpretation of the term of security sector.

93. A speaker proposed the subject of conducting expert reviews of draft legislation and administrative measures with a view to determining their possible impact on corruption, in relation to article 5, paragraph 3, of the Convention. Moreover, several speakers further suggested to continue gathering information on the use of ICT, including, for example mobile phone applications developed by States parties and third parties, and to discuss its usefulness at upcoming sessions of the Working Group. Some speakers suggested that the Working Group discuss the development of scientifically-based indicators of risks and levels of corruption, combining subjective and objective elements, in order to support States in their anti-corruption policies. It was underlined by several other States that education should be discussed earlier by the Group due to its important contribution in establishing a culture of integrity. One speaker suggested that the best practices collected in the past years in the field of prevention of corruption be presented in a concise and consolidated form to the Working Group to serve as a resource tool for Member States.

94. One speaker commented that it would be useful to include non-governmental organizations in the discussions of the Working Group.

95. A representative of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe informed the Group of the launch of the *Handbook on Combating Corruption*, which was developed in collaboration with other international organizations.

## **VI. Adoption of the report**

96. On 24 August 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on its seventh meeting.

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