



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

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Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance

Vienna, 29 and 30 May 2023

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

1. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Opening of the meeting;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Matters pertaining to the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto: challenges, lessons learned and identified technical assistance needs.
3. Technical assistance needs in the prevention of organized crime, including data collection and analytical processes to support the mainstreaming of a gender perspective and human rights, as well as the development of national strategies to address transnational organized crime.
4. Other matters.
5. Adoption of the report.

Annotations

1. Organizational matters

(a) Opening of the meeting

The fourteenth meeting of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance will be opened on Monday, 29 May 2023, at 10 a.m.

(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

On 5 August 2022, the extended Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime approved the programme of meetings for 2023, including the dates for the fourteenth meeting of the Working Group, to be held in Vienna on 29 and 30 May 2023.

On 3 February 2023, the extended Bureau approved by means of a silence procedure the substantive topics for the fourteenth meeting of the Working Group.



The proposed organization of work¹ contained in the annex to the present document was prepared in order to enable the Working Group to perform its mandated functions within the allotted time and according to the conference services available to it. The resources available to the Working Group will permit the holding of four plenary meetings over two days, with interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations.

2. Matters pertaining to the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto: challenges, lessons learned and identified technical assistance needs

The review process of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto is composed of a general review and country reviews. According to paragraph 12 of the procedures and rules for the functioning of the Mechanism, the Conference of the Parties and its working groups are to add the matter to their agendas as an item consistent with their areas of expertise and without prejudice to their respective existing mandates. Pursuant to paragraphs 13 and 43 of the above-mentioned procedures and rules, discussions pertaining to country reviews will be undertaken in the relevant working groups, and the working groups are to draw upon the lists of observations generated from country reviews in preparing their sessions and take them into account when proposing generally applicable recommendations to the Conference. In accordance with paragraph 8 of the procedures and rules, the review process, inter alia, is to assist the Conference in helping States parties to identify and substantiate specific needs for technical assistance and to promote and facilitate the provision of technical assistance upon their request.

When the present document was prepared, no country reviews had been finalized, and consequently no lists of observations had been made available to the Working Group. In addressing the agenda item, delegations are encouraged to share relevant information on their countries' progress in relation to the Implementation Review Mechanism, including lessons learned, good practices and challenges, as well as support needed for conducting the country reviews.

Under the agenda item, the secretariat will provide a brief update on matters pertaining to the progress of the Implementation Review Mechanism. In addition, the secretariat will present technical assistance tools for supporting the implementation of the observations that will emanate from the Mechanism.

Finally, delegations are encouraged to verify their legislative records in the Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime (SHERLOC) knowledge management portal in preparation for the meeting and to provide the legislation implementing the Convention and the Protocols thereto to the secretariat in an electronic format during the meeting. The legislation provided should be in one of the official languages of the United Nations. During the meeting, the SHERLOC focal points from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) will hold bilateral consultations in order to assist delegations in updating their records.

Documentation

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat on the status of the functioning of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2023/2)

¹ A document containing the details of the organization of work for the fourteenth meeting of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance is available on the website of the meeting, at www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CTOC/working-group-on-technical-assistance-2023.html.

Pursuant to paragraph 53 of the procedures and rules for the functioning of the Mechanism, a constructive dialogue was convened on Friday, 27 May 2022, following the conclusion of the thirteenth meeting of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance, held from 23 to 27 May 2022. A written summary of the discussions was prepared by the Chair of the Working Group and made available on the web page of the Mechanism.²

3. Technical assistance needs in the prevention of organized crime, including data collection and analytical processes to support the mainstreaming of a gender perspective and human rights, as well as the development of national strategies to address transnational organized crime

In its resolution 11/2, entitled “Implementation of the provisions on technical assistance of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime”, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention encouraged States to consider developing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating comprehensive and evidence-based whole-of-government policies and strategies against organized crime, formulated through a whole-of-society approach that included all relevant stakeholders, such as academia and civil society. In addition, the Conference endorsed the recommendation that, in developing their national policies and strategies, States parties consider using the four pillars highlighted in the “Organized crime strategy toolkit for developing high-impact strategies”, namely: (a) ensuring the inclusion of measures focused on prevention of organized crime; (b) pursuing organized criminal groups and their illicit activities; (c) protecting the most vulnerable; and (d) promoting partnerships and cooperation at all levels.

In the same resolution, the Conference encouraged States to mainstream gender and human rights into their legislation, policies, programmes and other initiatives against organized crime in order to implement the Convention and other international commitments, such as Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/3, in a comprehensive manner and thus more effectively prevent and combat organized crime. Lastly, it noted that UNODC should continue to provide technical assistance to States, including on legislation and strategy development, to prevent and combat organized crime and continue to collect, analyse and disseminate information related to responses to and the nature of organized crime, with a view to ensuring the effective implementation of the Organized Crime Convention.

To support States in the above-mentioned efforts, UNODC developed the following publications: module 12 in the UNODC teaching module series on organized crime, entitled “Crime prevention typologies and organized crime prevention”; “Organized crime strategy toolkit for developing high-impact strategies”; *The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and International Human Rights Law*; and *Organized Crime and Gender: Issues Relating to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime*.³

Building on the above-mentioned publications, the Working Group may wish to consider how an evidence-based, whole-of-society approach that engages with a range of stakeholders at the global, regional, national and community levels in pursuit of a common vision and goals can strengthen organized crime prevention efforts. The Working Group may also wish to share best practices and challenges on how gender and human rights considerations can be mainstreamed throughout strategies for preventing organized crime and how data disaggregated on the basis of gender can contribute to those efforts.

Under the agenda item, the secretariat will provide a brief update on the available tools and ongoing technical activities aimed at the development of strategies for

² Available at www.unodc.org/unodc/en/organized-crime/intro/review-mechanism-untoc/constructive-dialogues.html.

³ Available at <http://sherloc.unodc.org>.

preventing and combating organized crime and at mainstreaming gender and human rights in the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention.

Documentation

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat on technical assistance needs in the prevention of organized crime, including data collection and analytical processes to support the mainstreaming of a gender perspective and human rights, as well as the development of national strategies to address transnational organized crime (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2023/3)

4. Other matters

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

5. Adoption of the report

The Working Group will adopt a report on its meeting, the draft of which will be prepared by the secretariat.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
Monday, 29 May 2023		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	1 (a)	Opening of the meeting
	1 (b)	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3–6 p.m.	2	Matters pertaining to the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto: challenges, lessons learned and identified technical assistance needs
	2	Matters pertaining to the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto: challenges, lessons learned and identified technical assistance needs (<i>continued</i>)
	3	Technical assistance needs in the prevention of organized crime, including data collection and analytical processes to support the mainstreaming of a gender perspective and human rights, as well as the development of national strategies to address transnational organized crime
Tuesday, 30 May 2023		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	3	Technical assistance needs in the prevention of organized crime, including data collection and analytical processes to support the mainstreaming of a gender perspective and human rights, as well as the development of national strategies to address transnational organized crime (<i>continued</i>)
	4	Other matters
3–6 p.m.	5	Adoption of the report