



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

Distr.: General  
6 April 2020

Original: English

## Working Group on International Cooperation

Vienna, 7 and 8 July 2020

### Annotated provisional agenda

#### Provisional agenda

1. Organizational matters:
  - (a) Opening of the meeting;
  - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. The use and role of joint investigative bodies in combating transnational organized crime.
3. International cooperation involving special investigative techniques.
4. Other matters.
5. Adoption of the report.

#### Annotations

##### 1. Organizational matters

###### (a) Opening of the meeting

The eleventh meeting of the Working Group on International Cooperation will be opened on Tuesday, 7 July 2020, at 10 a.m.

###### (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

At its tenth meeting, held on 10 October 2019, the extended Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime discussed the dates for the 2020 meetings of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance and the Working Group on International Cooperation. After informal consultations on the scheduling of the meetings, on 28 November 2019 the extended Bureau agreed via silence procedure to hold the eleventh meeting of the Working Group on International Cooperation on 7 and 8 July 2020. The provisional agenda for the meeting was approved by the extended Bureau via silence procedure on 26 February 2020.



## **2. The use and role of joint investigative bodies in combating transnational organized crime**

At the eighth meeting of the Working Group on International Cooperation, under the agenda item entitled “Other matters”, the Chair invited delegations to suggest topics for possible inclusion in the agendas of future meetings, subject to further consultation between States parties and consideration and decision by the extended Bureau of the Conference. One of the topics suggested for future meetings was the use of joint investigations (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2017/4-CTOC/COP/WG.3/2017/4, para. 38).

Under agenda item 2, the Working Group will focus on discussing implementation challenges pertaining to article 19 of the Organized Crime Convention on joint investigations and possible solutions to those challenges, and on sharing successful cases and good practices in that area. The Working Group may also wish to exchange views and share experiences regarding the use of the Organized Crime Convention as a legal basis for joint investigations and the conclusion of agreements or arrangements allowing for the establishment of joint investigative bodies to combat transnational organized crime.

At its sixth session, the Working Group recommended that the secretariat should undertake the updating, finalization and validation of the draft report of the informal expert working group on joint investigations, including its conclusions and recommendations,<sup>1</sup> which had been brought to the attention of the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session in a conference room paper (CTOC/COP/2008/CRP.5).

The Working Group may wish to note that action to implement the aforementioned recommendation was not taken owing to a lack of resources and the fact that the finalization and validation of the draft report was challenging, given the time that had elapsed since its preparation. The Working Group may wish to discuss, with the assistance of the background paper prepared by the Secretariat on the use and role of joint investigative bodies in combating transnational organized crime (CTOC/COP/WG.3/2020/2), more recent trends and patterns relating to the establishment of joint investigative bodies to combat transnational organized crime, as well as the current ratification status of the Organized Crime Convention. The Working Group may also wish to bring to the attention of the Conference a recommendation on undertaking up-to-date work in that area, subject to the availability of resources.

### *Documentation*

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat on the use and role of joint investigative bodies in combating transnational organized crime (CTOC/COP/WG.3/2020/2)

## **3. International cooperation involving special investigative techniques**

Under agenda item 3, the Working Group will have an opportunity consider practical means of promoting international cooperation involving special investigative techniques and, in doing so, address the legal and practical aspects of implementing article 20 of the Organized Crime Convention, including safeguards used in such forms of international cooperation.

---

<sup>1</sup> The meeting of the informal expert working group on joint investigations was organized by the Organized Crime and Criminal Justice Section (OCS), the Treaty and Legal Assistance Branch and the Division for Treaty Affairs of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and was held in Vienna from 2 to 4 September 2008. Nineteen experts participated in the meeting in their individual capacities, alongside UNODC/OCS staff, exchanging views and information on the use of joint investigative practices. The expert working group brought together experts from most geographical regions of the world, providing law enforcement and prosecutorial expertise from both civil law and common law legal systems, as well as regional organizations.

The consideration of this topic as a separate substantive agenda item is in line with the practice of the Working Group in recent years of expanding the scope of its discussions to cover not only the “traditional” modalities of international cooperation in criminal matters, such as extradition and mutual legal assistance, but also other forms of international cooperation, such as international cooperation for the purposes of confiscation and the transfer of criminal proceedings (as discussed at the seventh and eighth sessions of the Working Group, respectively).

*Documentation*

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat on international cooperation involving special investigative techniques (CTOC/COP/WG.3/2020/3)

**4. Other matters**

As no issues to be raised under agenda item 4 have come to the attention of the secretariat, no documentation regarding the 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>
<b>Tuesday, 7 July</b>		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	1 (a)	Opening of the meeting
	1 (b)	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	2	The use and role of joint investigative bodies in combating transnational organized crime
3–6 p.m.	2	The use and role of joint investigative bodies in combating transnational organized crime ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Wednesday, 8 July</b>		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	3	International cooperation involving special investigative techniques
3–6 p.m.	3	International cooperation involving special investigative techniques ( <i>continued</i> )
	4	Other matters
	5	Adoption of the report