



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
15 March 2017

Original: English

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Twenty-sixth session

Vienna, 22-26 May 2017

Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

**Integration and coordination of efforts by the United
Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and 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 an overview of the activities of 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 to address corruption. The report also provides information on international cooperation and technical assistance undertaken by the Office to combat transnational organized crime and corruption.

* E/CN.15/2017/1.



I. Introduction

1. The present report has been prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2016/243. It provides information on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) related to item 5 (a) and (b) of the provisional agenda for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice ([E/CN.15/2017/1](#)). It contains information on the activities of UNODC to curb transnational organized crime, including new and emerging forms of crime, and to fight corruption. The report also contains information on the activities of UNODC to promote international cooperation in criminal matters, including through networking, and technical assistance undertaken by UNODC to upgrade the capacity of Member States in addressing related challenges. Prominence is given to action geared towards promoting the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

II. Transnational organized crime

A. Work of the Conference of the Parties to the Organized Crime Convention and its working groups

2. Within the framework of its thematic programme, UNODC continued to assist States in implementing the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto. The second meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental meeting to explore all options regarding an appropriate and effective review mechanism for the Convention and the Protocols thereto was held on 6 and 7 June 2016. The Working Group on Firearms of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention held its fourth meeting in Vienna on 18 and 19 May 2016; its fifth meeting is scheduled to be held in Vienna from 8 to 10 May 2017.

3. The eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Organized Crime Convention was held from 17 to 21 October 2016. At that session, the Conference, in its resolution 8/2, decided to continue the process of establishing the mechanism for the review of the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto, and also decided to elaborate specific procedures and rules for the functioning of the review mechanism for consideration and adoption by the Conference at its ninth session, through an open-ended intergovernmental meeting that would meet at least once in the next two years. In this context, an open-ended intergovernmental meeting for the purpose of defining the specific procedures and rules for the functioning of the review mechanism will be held in Vienna from 24 to 26 April 2017. Also at its eighth session, the Conference adopted resolutions on enhancing the effectiveness of central authorities in international cooperation in criminal matters to counter transnational organized crime; strengthening the implementation of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition; and implementing the provisions on technical assistance of the Convention.

4. In parallel with the plenary proceedings of the Conference, the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance held its ninth meeting from 17 to 19 October 2016 and the Working Group on International Cooperation held its seventh meeting, which also marked the tenth anniversary of the Working Group, from 19 to 21 October 2016.

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

5. UNODC has continued to promote the ratification of, and accession to, the Organized Crime Convention and its Protocols. As at 22 February 2017, 187 States had become parties to the Convention; 170 to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; 143 to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; and 114 to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition.

6. During the reporting period, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea acceded to the Convention, Maldives acceded to the Trafficking in Persons Protocol and Afghanistan acceded to the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol.

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

1. Organized Crime Convention

7. The Secretariat has continued to develop the knowledge management portal known as Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime (SHERLOC) and to disseminate information on the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention. As of January 2017, SHERLOC included more than 2,300 cases involving organized crime from 113 countries and more than 6,200 pieces of legislation from 196 countries. During the reporting period, more than 1,600 laws and more than 400 cases involving organized crime were uploaded into SHERLOC.

8. From October 2015 to October 2016, SHERLOC was accessed 114,535 times, compared with 47,594 visits registered from October 2014 to October 2015. The majority of users of the portal were from the United States of America, India and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. A total of 230 active users of the portal responded to an online survey conducted by UNODC to assess the usefulness of the different sections of SHERLOC. Of those respondents, 149 indicated their area of work. An equal number of responding users came from the governmental sector and academia (18.2 per cent each), while 13.6 per cent had a law enforcement background and 11.4 per cent had some other legal background. Students represented 11.4 per cent of the responding users. Users have consistently rated the portal as very useful, indicating that the main purpose of use is to identify legislative provisions and to support policymaking processes.

9. Global access and multilingualism are important goals for SHERLOC and, to that end, SHERLOC has been translated for use in all of the official languages of the United Nations. SHERLOC is also adaptable to all devices, enabling users to access it through mobile technologies.

10. The Office has expanded SHERLOC to include a bibliographic database, which is an annotated bibliography providing a synopsis of key articles that are searchable by country, crime type and cross-cutting issue. While previously the bibliographic database contained information on migrant smuggling only, it has now grown to cover all 14 crime types dealt with by other SHERLOC databases, namely, participation in an organized criminal group, obstruction of justice, money-laundering, corruption, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime, fraudulent medicine, drug trafficking offences, counterfeiting, piracy, trafficking in cultural property, and wildlife and forest crime. In addition, the database of legislation now presents information in both the traditional data presentation format and by means of a newly added map function that provides a more graphic presentation of data.

11. In order to assist Member States seeking to ratify, accede to or implement the Organized Crime Convention, the *Legislative Guides for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto* was updated pursuant to resolution 7/4 of the Conference of the Parties to the Organized Crime Convention and has been published electronically on SHERLOC.

12. The Office has also continued to redevelop and migrate the directory of competent national authorities under the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and the Organized Crime Convention into SHERLOC. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Working Group on International Cooperation at its sixth meeting, the 2016 issue of the directory presents the information in two separate parts. The current version of the directory also allows for the inclusion of channels and information for informal cooperation in criminal matters; information on relevant legislation, templates and guidelines and the legal bases for extradition and mutual legal assistance; and lists of applicable bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements.

13. UNODC also finalized the publication entitled *Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: Needs Assessment Tools*. The aim of the tools is to provide guidance in assessing what measures should be taken by States parties in order to ensure that the full potential of the Convention can be realized. The tools are to be used in the delivery of technical assistance, in particular in assessing the needs of States parties for technical assistance, with a focus on implementing legislation. The tools can also enable experts from international organizations and Governments, in particular policymakers and legislators, to assess the implementation of the Convention at the domestic level, which could include self-assessment. The tools consist of indicators and questions designed to identify gaps in the existing legislation and its implementation, facilitate the formulation and development of technical assistance projects that adequately respond to the gaps and needs identified, and facilitate the development of performance indicators for evaluating progress in implementation.

14. The Secretariat continued its work on the redevelopment of the Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer Tool in an effort to make it more user-friendly, expand its functionality and integrate features on asset recovery and additional forms or means of international cooperation in criminal matters, including transfer of criminal proceedings, videoconferencing and, to the extent applicable, joint investigations to conduct controlled deliveries. The tool, in its redeveloped version, will also contain a “digital evidence module” that takes into account all pertinent developments in the field of international cooperation to combat cybercrime and covers the following forms of cooperation: expedited preservation of stored computer data; ensuring access to stored computer data; and real-time collection of traffic data. The tool will be linked to the UNODC directory of competent national authorities to enable the retrieval of contact information of competent foreign authorities for use in the preparation of requests for mutual legal assistance. It will also be linked to SHERLOC in order to provide practitioners with easy access to a variety of constantly updated information, including national guides, legal provisions applicable in foreign jurisdictions and other supplementary resources such as manuals, checklists of legal requirements and external links to custom templates and formats used by other countries. The revised version of the tool was pilot-tested during the third quarter of 2016 in three African countries (Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda) and was further updated to ensure its technical functionality. The Secretariat plans to announce the release of the revised tool and provide an online process for interested professionals to gain access to its content during the first quarter of 2017.

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

15. UNODC continued to assist States parties in implementing the Trafficking in Persons Protocol through normative, policy and technical assistance work, including related regional and international cooperation efforts. With the support and involvement of France, UNODC assisted in the development of a multidisciplinary action plan in Bulgaria and Romania based on the analysis of concrete trafficking in persons cases in order to facilitate international cooperation in responding to trafficking in persons. UNODC successfully pilot-tested a regional workshop to support law enforcement officials and victim assistance providers in the identification, protection and assistance of victims of trafficking in persons among refugees and displaced persons from the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq. UNODC also organized a regional workshop on international and regional cooperation to address trafficking in persons, for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries. Transnational awareness-raising efforts were supported by UNODC as part of the global Blue Heart Campaign against Human Trafficking.

16. In the period from April to June 2016, UNODC successfully completed consultative assessments of Governments' responses to the challenges posed by trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants in 12 beneficiary countries within the framework of the Global Action to Prevent and Address Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants, which also included, inter alia, an assessment of existing regional and transregional cooperation. In the period from July to December 2016, the resulting 12 reports were finalized and disseminated to the European Union, the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Children's Fund and government authorities for review, consultation and endorsement. UNODC is jointly finalizing workplans with Governments, based on recommendations emanating from the consultative process, which will provide a framework for the implementation of activities until 2019.

17. In March 2016, UNODC launched the Human Trafficking Knowledge Portal, which hosts the Human Trafficking Case Law Database of officially documented instances of trafficking in persons crimes and provides a link to the SHERLOC database of legislation on human trafficking. The portal is available in all six official languages of the United Nations. UNODC expanded the Database to cover more than 1,380 cases from 97 jurisdictions, and launched a case digest of trafficking in persons cases, focusing on evidential issues. The Office also published the 2016 edition of the UNODC *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*.

18. UNODC also supported the preparations for, and participated in, the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, held in New York on 19 September 2016. The meeting resulted in the adoption of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, in which Heads of State and Government expressed the political will to save lives, protect rights and share responsibility on a global scale through international cooperation. Furthermore, UNODC participated in a Security Council meeting on trafficking in persons in conflict situations that was held in New York on 20 December 2016 and resulted in the adoption by the Council of resolution 2331 (2016). In that resolution, the Council underscored the importance of international law enforcement cooperation in investigating, disrupting and dismantling networks involved in trafficking in persons in the context of armed conflict, and in that regard called for the continued support of UNODC in building capacities of Member States, including through the exchange of information and the strengthening of networks for regional and international cooperation in relation to trafficking in persons in areas affected by armed conflict. UNODC provided input for the report of the Secretary-General on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons ([A/71/119](#)), prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 70/179.

19. As the 2016 chair of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, UNODC led work to scrutinize current practices in designing and

evaluating anti-trafficking responses at all levels, resulting in the publication of an inter-agency issue paper and a practitioner's guidance tool in December 2016. UNODC continued to manage the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which in 2016 supported 21 non-governmental partner organizations providing specialized assistance to more than 3,000 victims of trafficking in persons in 21 countries, with grants totalling \$425,262.

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

20. UNODC continued to assist States parties in implementing the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol through normative and policy work and technical assistance. Every capacity-building activity delivered at the national level included a module dedicated to international cooperation, and each regional and transregional workshop focused on developing both judicial and operational cooperation.

21. In the reporting period, UNODC organized national workshops in Algeria, Morocco, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Tunisia. A pilot workshop in Tunisia was based on a new methodology and case study to support the protection capacity of front-line officers dealing with migrant smuggling. Relevant UNODC technical assistance also included a pilot regional workshop on preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants by air through strengthened capacity to examine security documents, involving four countries (the Gambia, Ghana, Ethiopia and South Africa). UNODC also held a transregional workshop on preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants by sea in South Asia, involving five South Asian Member States (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Maldives and Sri Lanka).

22. UNODC, jointly with the International Organization for Migration and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), held a regional workshop on enhancing and strengthening cross-border cooperation in addressing irregular migration-related crimes in the Western Balkans. UNODC also conducted a Regional Expert Group Meeting on strengthening capacities to improve joint criminal investigations and prosecutions and to disrupt illicit financial flows deriving from migrant smuggling in South-Eastern Europe. UNODC further organized the annual plenary meeting of the Network of West African Central Authorities and Prosecutors against Organized Crime (WACAP), with a component aimed at enhancing the use by WACAP prosecutors and central authorities' focal points of international cooperation tools to address migrant smuggling through West Africa. In addition, through a regional workshop, UNODC supported 11 Member States from the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) in the development of a plan of action addressing migrant smuggling, in turn operationalizing the UNODC Regional Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants 2015-2020 for West and Central Africa.

23. UNODC further developed a case law database on the smuggling of migrants, under SHERLOC, including by expanding the network of contributors to the database and leveraging strategic partnerships. It now covers more than 200 cases from 29 jurisdictions.

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

24. UNODC continued its support to Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and the Niger in revising and amending national firearms legislation by convening legal drafting workshops and facilitating the preparation of draft laws on firearms. Providing a legal basis at the national level for different forms of international cooperation has been an important objective of the Office's efforts in that regard.

25. In August 2016, UNODC organized a three-day training workshop for Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates on the international legal framework on conventional arms and the Firearms Protocol. The workshop also provided participating States with a self-assessment tool to evaluate

the level of implementation of the Firearms Protocol, including its provisions on international cooperation.

26. UNODC also continued its work on strengthening criminal justice responses and promoting international cooperation and exchange of information in relation to trafficking in firearms by organizing a series of four training sessions on investigating and prosecuting firearms trafficking and related offences for more than 90 law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges and other relevant stakeholders from Chad (October 2016), Mauritania (November 2016), Mali (November 2016) and the Niger (December 2016).

27. With the aims of fostering international cooperation and information-sharing and promoting enhanced data collection and analysis on illicit arms flows among Western Balkan countries and European Union member States, UNODC participated in a regional training course, held in Zagreb in September 2016, entitled “Firearms: Western Balkans”, which was jointly organized by the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training and the Government of Croatia. The meeting was attended by representatives of 23 European Union and Balkan countries and experts from, inter alia, the European Union, the European Multidisciplinary Platform against Criminal Threats (EMPACT), the European Police Office (Europol), the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre, the South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNODC.

28. In October 2016, UNODC attended a meeting organized by EMPACT and the Government of Spain in Alicante, Spain, to address the firearms threat to European Union citizens and the Union’s operational responses, with 35 participants from European Union member States, Switzerland and Ukraine, as well as other relevant stakeholders, including Europol, the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union, Transcrime, Small Arms Survey, Conflict Armament Research and representatives from industry.

29. In November 2016, UNODC participated in the third meeting of the INTERPOL working group on the Illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System (iARMS), which was held in Lyon, France. The aim of the meeting was to discuss lessons learned from the current implementation of iARMS and ways to further support and encourage its active use by Member States.

D. Networking to combat transnational organized crime

30. Under the UNODC Global Programme on Building Effective Networks against Transnational Organized Crime (BENATOC) within the framework of the “networking the networks” initiative, efforts continued to build stronger operational cooperation links between existing international and regional law enforcement cooperation centres and organizations as well as with the networks of the financial intelligence units. The ultimate aim was to promote crime-related intelligence-sharing and coordination of complex multilateral operations targeting all forms of organized crime and illicit financial flows. Within the framework of the Law Enforcement TrainNet initiative of BENATOC, UNODC, in cooperation with a number of international and regional partners, has been facilitating networking between law enforcement training and educational institutions for exchange of curricula, training materials, training methodologies, best practices and trainers.

31. In 2016, WACAP, which UNODC supports in cooperation with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), developed a train-the-trainer programme on international cooperation in criminal matters, to equip a selected number of officials in each country of the region with the knowledge and skills needed to train their peers on issues pertaining to international cooperation, including the role of central and competent authorities. Training sessions were held

in Côte d'Ivoire from 19 to 30 September 2016 for officials from Burkina Faso, Mali, the Niger and the host country; and in Senegal from 10 to 21 October 2016 for officials from Benin, Guinea, Senegal and Togo. A session was also organized in Cabo Verde from 6 to 17 February 2017 for officials from Cabo Verde and Guinea-Bissau. The programme requires trainees to transfer their knowledge and, to that end, UNODC is supporting related "transference" workshops. The Gambia hosted a transference workshop for 20 participants from 13 to 15 July 2016. A plenary meeting was held in Niamey, Niger, from 8 to 11 November 2016 with in-kind support from, and in collaboration with, the Ministry of Justice, and with the participation of 13 ECOWAS countries and Mauritania. The main focus of the meeting was on regional and international cooperation in the field of smuggling of migrants. Experts from the Niger, ECOWAS, the European Union Capacity Building Mission (EUCAP) Sahel Niger and Eurojust shared experiences on addressing crime at the national and international levels. Interregional cooperation on cocaine trafficking was also addressed.

32. The Great Lakes Judicial Cooperation Network, modelled after WACAP and other such networks, was established in November 2016 by the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region together with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and with the support of UNODC. It will be led by ICGLR and UNODC, with political support from the Office of the Special Envoy. The Network will address international cooperation in criminal matters, provide a forum to facilitate effective and collaborative legal action at the subregional level and thereby contribute to promoting accountability for crimes committed by criminal groups, including organized criminal groups, especially war crimes and crimes against humanity, trafficking in firearms, drug trafficking, illegal exploitation of natural resources and terrorism in the Great Lakes region.

33. UNODC continued to support the Network of Prosecutors and Central Authorities from Source, Transit and Destination Countries in response to Transnational Organized Crime in Central Asia and Southern Caucasus. The Network holds plenary meetings and interregional and national training workshops for judicial and law enforcement practitioners. The topics of the meetings and training workshops are identified on the basis of participants' priority needs. In 2016, the Network held two plenary meetings which addressed issues of overcoming obstacles to mutual legal assistance and extradition, and preventing and combating the use of the Internet for terrorism and organized crime purposes. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan and the General Prosecutor's Office of Kazakhstan hosted the meetings in Baku and Astana, respectively. The meetings facilitated the exchange of practices and contacts and the execution of requests for mutual legal assistance among central authorities and senior prosecutors from 15 countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Germany, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Netherlands, Norway, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom, United States and Uzbekistan). Experts from Eurojust and the European Court of Human Rights also shared their practices and case law with meeting participants.

34. A training course on investigation and prosecution of cybercrime was delivered to law enforcement officers and prosecutors, including trainers from national training institutions for prosecutors, from eight countries of Central Asia and the Southern Caucasus, as well as Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan (Almaty, Kazakhstan, 20-22 September 2016).

35. UNODC, with the financial support of the European Union, launched a new programme entitled "CRIMJUST: strengthening criminal investigation and criminal justice cooperation along the cocaine route in Latin America, the Caribbean and West Africa (2016-2020)". Within the framework of CRIMJUST, UNODC, in partnership with INTERPOL and Transparency International, is providing technical assistance to 11 countries (Argentina, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria, Panama and Peru). The main

domains of assistance, among others, include the following: capacity-building; strengthening the capacities of criminal justice institutions (law enforcement and the judiciary) to detect, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate drug-trafficking and related organized crime cases; fostering regional and interregional cooperation between criminal justice institutions (law enforcement and the judiciary); and enhancing institutional integrity and accountability of criminal justice institutions.

36. UNODC signed project cooperation agreements with Transparency International (June 2016) and INTERPOL (September 2016).

E. Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the field of trafficking in cultural property

37. In cooperation with various partners, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT), INTERPOL and OSCE, UNODC continued to provide technical assistance to Member States in order to strengthen their criminal justice responses to trafficking in cultural property. Since May 2016, UNODC has been involved in capacity-building activities for officials from Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Lebanon and Tajikistan.

38. Following the launch of a practical assistance tool to assist in the implementation of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences, UNODC continued to disseminate the Guidelines and the tool to national authorities for consideration in their review of national administrative and legislative measures aimed at preventing and combating trafficking in cultural property. The practical assistance tool is now available on the UNODC website in all six official languages of the United Nations.

39. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/186, UNODC continued to receive from and disseminate to Member States information on the designation of contact points to facilitate international cooperation within the application of the Organized Crime Convention, for the purpose of preventing and combating trafficking in cultural property.

40. In 2015, UNODC, UNESCO, INTERPOL and the Governments of Italy and Jordan jointly developed the global initiative entitled “Protecting cultural heritage: an imperative for humanity”. In April 2016, UNODC took the lead in the organization of a meeting of a technical expert working group in New York focusing on trafficking and the movement of cultural property, which was one of three working groups established under the initiative. The report of the initiative was presented on 22 September 2016 at a high-level meeting on protecting cultural heritage held on the margins of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly.

41. UNODC, as a member of the experts network on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2199 (2015) and safeguarding of the Iraqi and Syrian heritage, continued to work closely with its partners, including UNESCO and INTERPOL, to assist Member States in strengthening their responses to the financing of terrorism through trafficking in cultural property.

F. Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the field of cybercrime

42. The UNODC Global Programme on Cybercrime continued to assist in developing the capacity of Member States to prevent, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate all types of cybercrime in Central America, East Africa, Central Asia, the Southern Caucasus and South-East Asia. The Programme supported Member States by reviewing national legislation and providing training on cybercrime investigations and digital forensics and equipment for front-line officers, so that

national authorities are better equipped to deal with evolving concepts in the fight against cybercrime.

43. UNODC provided substantive contributions to the development of a World Bank publication entitled *Toolkit on Best Practice in Policy/Legal Enabling Framework and Capacity Building in Combating Cybercrime*. Substantive feedback was also provided to assist the authorities in Cabo Verde in finalizing the draft text of cybercrime legislation.

44. UNODC also participated in, and provided substantive contributions to, the international symposium on the theme “ASEAN cybersecurity and cybercrime centre: possibility and way forward”, hosted by the Office of the Council of State of Thailand and held in Bangkok on 15 and 16 September 2016; and the ninth meeting of the Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA) Working Group on Cybercrime of the Organization of American States, held in Washington, D.C., on 12 and 13 December 2016.

45. The third meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group to conduct a comprehensive study of the problem of cybercrime is scheduled to be held in Vienna from 10 to 13 April 2017. The aim of the meeting is to review the summaries of deliberations of its first and second meetings, as prepared by the Rapporteur, and to discuss next steps and the future course of action in relation to the cybercrime study.

III. Corruption

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

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

46. The Implementation Review Group, which is responsible for overseeing the work of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held its seventh session in Vienna from 20 to 24 June 2016 and its resumed seventh session in Vienna from 14 to 16 November 2016. The Group considered, inter alia, the implementation of the Convention, the performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism, technical assistance and financial and budgetary matters. Furthermore, a briefing for non-governmental organizations was held on the margins of the seventh session of the Group. As in previous years, a summary of the briefing was made available to the Group.

47. UNODC continued to provide technical and substantive services to the Implementation Review Mechanism and the Implementation Review Group in 2016, the first year of the second cycle of the Review Mechanism. Those services included providing training and assistance both to States under review and reviewing States, supporting the country reviews and producing thematic reports on the trends in implementation of the Convention and the related technical assistance needs. In particular, pursuant to Conference resolution 6/1, the Secretariat improved and revised the self-assessment checklist in relation to chapters II and V of the Convention, in consultation with States parties. At the time of reporting, 144 executive summaries of reviews under the first cycle of the Mechanism had been made available to the Implementation Review Group. A further five executive summaries had been completed, but had not yet been made available to the Group at the time of reporting. UNODC has also provided technical assistance in response to the observations emanating from the reviews through the drafting of an anti-corruption strategy and/or action plan, legislative drafting assistance, capacity-building and other ad hoc activities.

48. Since 2010, a total of \$11,803,900 in voluntary contributions for the Review Mechanism has been received from Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, France,

Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and UNDP. In-kind contributions have also been provided by Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, China, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Gabon, Grenada, Greece, Haiti, India, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Nepal, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and Vanuatu.¹

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

49. At its meeting held in Vienna from 20 to 24 August 2016, the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption addressed the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention against Corruption and on integrity in sport, in accordance with Conference resolution 6/6. Discussions were also held on the future priorities in the area of prevention of corruption and the continuation of substantive discussions on the implementation of chapter II of the Convention.

3. Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery

50. At its tenth intersessional meeting, held in Vienna on 25 and 26 August 2016, the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery discussed settlements and other alternative mechanisms in transnational bribery cases and their implications for the recovery and return of stolen assets. It further discussed best practices in identifying victims of corruption and the parameters for compensation, in accordance with Conference resolution 6/2. While acknowledging the challenges still faced by both requesting and requested States, the Working Group welcomed the progress that had been made in the implementation of chapter V of the Convention, noting the positive role of UNODC and the joint UNODC/World Bank Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative in supporting that process.

4. Experts to enhance international cooperation under the Convention against Corruption

51. The fifth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the Convention against Corruption was held in Vienna on 17 and 18 November 2016. At the meeting, the experts took stock of country reviews on the implementation of chapter IV of the Convention, including the findings on challenges, successes and good practices, as well as the lessons learned and technical assistance needs. The experts invited States parties to further assist one another in the investigation and prosecution of corruption cases by effectively using the Convention as a legal basis for international cooperation. The experts also discussed international cooperation in civil and administrative proceedings for the detection of offences under the Convention, and discussed an update by UNODC of tools and services to promote international cooperation.

B. Promoting ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

1. Tools and knowledge-building

52. At the global level, UNODC continued to develop and disseminate guides, handbooks and other tools that address the needs of anti-corruption practitioners with regard to specific aspects of challenges, policies and good practices relating to the implementation of the Convention.

¹ Information as at 31 January 2017.

53. The interactive e-learning tool for the private sector entitled “The fight against corruption” is now available in 21 languages. It was developed jointly by UNODC and the United Nations Global Compact to enhance understanding among the private sector of the Convention against Corruption and the Global Compact’s tenth principle against corruption. To date, almost 220,000 users have taken the course.²

54. The Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge (TRACK) portal, created by UNODC in 2012, continued to be successful, with a total of 54,488 page views registered in 2016. Its legal library contains laws, jurisprudence and information on anti-corruption authorities from 185 States. It currently contains a total of 56,068 legal provisions. TRACK also hosts the resources of the Anti-Corruption Academic (ACAD) Initiative and a private sector portal.

2. Integrity in sports

55. UNODC expanded its work on issues related to integrity and good governance in sport. Together with the International Olympic Committee (IOC), UNODC conducted an extensive study on the criminalization of the manipulation of sports competitions. A booklet entitled *Model criminal law provisions for the prosecution of competition manipulation* was published in June 2016 and the full study was published in February 2017. The *Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Investigation of Match-Fixing*, developed by UNODC in partnership with the International Centre for Sport Security in order to help officials of law enforcement agencies and sports organizations investigate match-fixing, was published in August 2016.

56. Discussions are ongoing with a number of sports organizations about further cooperation in addressing integrity and good governance in sport, with a focus on prevention, enforcement and education. In June 2016, UNODC delivered training to Brazilian prosecutors and law enforcement officials as part of a workshop, organized by INTERPOL and IOC, to combat corruption in sport. In Panama, UNODC supported the preparation of a threat assessment for money-laundering in the football sector. UNODC also contributed to a panel on integrity in sport organized by World Rugby in November 2016. Input was also provided to the Asian Football Confederation on its new whistle-blower policy document, “Do the right thing”, launched in December 2016. UNODC also contributed to a number of expert group meetings organized by IOC in November 2016 and to the second International Forum for Sports Integrity in February 2017.

3. Provision of technical assistance for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

57. UNODC continued to provide a broad set of tailored technical assistance activities at the global, regional and national levels to meet the growing demand of States parties. UNODC field-based anti-corruption advisers serve as key focal points for the provision of anti-corruption technical assistance at the regional and national levels. Those advisers provide rapidly deployable professional expertise to facilitate the delivery of on-site guidance to States parties requesting assistance in strengthening legislation and institutions to further implement the Convention. Anti-corruption advisers are well placed to identify regional and national needs and to provide targeted assistance at the national, subregional and regional levels. They also provide support and expertise to UNODC country-level anti-corruption programmes and regional offices.

58. UNODC regularly receives requests from States seeking to improve their legislation to prevent and fight corruption, often based on the recommendations made in the country reviews. In the Pacific region, for example, UNODC provided assistance to Solomon Islands in drafting its right-to-information law and policy as well as a new anti-corruption bill. UNODC also provided assistance to Fiji and

² <http://thefightagainstcorruption.org/certificate>.

Palau in reviewing their access-to-information laws and procedures and to Vanuatu in awareness-raising on the right-to-information bill and policy. In Cambodia, UNODC facilitated consultations among national stakeholders for the development of a code of ethics in public administration.

59. In Burkina Faso, UNODC supported the drafting of a new legal framework, which was adopted in 2016 and which strengthened the investigative powers and independence of the High Authority for State Control and Anti-Corruption.

4. Investigation and prosecution of corruption

60. UNODC provided training in Solomon Islands in June 2016 to build the capacity of specialized institutions to successfully investigate and prosecute corruption. The training covered topics such as investigation management, search and seizure operations, document analysis, financial investigations, audits, special investigation techniques, interview techniques, forensic accounting, trial advocacy skills and case management. UNODC plans to deliver both a basic and advanced training course in corruption investigations and prosecutions in 2017.

61. UNODC also provided training on financial analysis techniques to financial intelligence units in several States. In particular, the financial intelligence unit of Fiji mentored the financial intelligence units of Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau and Solomon Islands to strengthen their capacity to combat money-laundering. UNODC provided capacity-building support in several countries for the detection, investigation and successful prosecution of money-laundering offences. UNODC and the Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions launched a pilot exchange programme for audit offices from Fiji and Kiribati.

62. At the regional level, UNODC conducted workshops on the protection of whistle-blowers and witnesses for small island developing States in June 2016, and for West African countries in September 2016, the latter in support of efforts by ECOWAS.

5. Prevention of corruption

63. The Secretary-General has received notifications from 105 States parties designating a total of 181 competent authorities that might assist other States parties in developing and implementing specific measures for the prevention of corruption, as required under article 6, paragraph 3, of the Convention. An updated list of competent authorities and government agencies is available from an online directory (www.unodc.org/compauth_uncac/en/index.html).

64. In supporting anti-corruption bodies and other stakeholders, UNODC continued to enable and support South-South cooperation and learning exchange. Through the UNODC-UNDP project for the Pacific region, for example, anti-corruption officials from Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste contributed to the discussions with Solomon Islands on the establishment of its anti-corruption body. UNODC also supported anti-corruption bodies in devising capacity development strategies in Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar.

65. In 2016, UNODC launched a new global project to strengthen judicial integrity and assist States in the implementation of article 11 of the Convention and the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct. Among other things, this project is aimed at establishing a global judicial integrity network made up of senior members of judiciaries throughout the world, harnessing the expertise and experience of national and regional associations of judges, prosecutors and judicial administration officials. In July 2016, a regional meeting about this subject matter was held in Amman for States in the Middle East and North Africa, and UNODC co-sponsored the fifth ministerial meeting of the Arab Anti-Corruption and Integrity Network, held in Tunisia in September 2016. Additional regional meetings were held in 2016

in Panama and Thailand to discuss regional challenges and priorities in judicial integrity as well as to develop a global network on judicial integrity.

66. In Kenya, Panama, Tunisia and Viet Nam, UNODC supported projects to strengthen police integrity and to assist police in implementing anti-corruption measures, including by developing national codes of conduct. In El Salvador, UNODC facilitated the drafting of standard operating procedures for the newly-created secretariat of professional responsibility within the National Civilian Police, as well as procedures to govern joint action between the police and the defence force. In Tunisia, UNODC conducted training for law enforcement agencies on integrity and methodologies for enhancing the ethics regime in police forces.

67. UNODC continued the development of a handbook on anti-corruption measures in prisons that will be finalized in 2017.

6. Youth, education and civil society

68. In order to strengthen the capacity of civil society to contribute to the Convention and the review of its implementation, UNODC and the UNCAC Civil Society Coalition, an umbrella organization of more than 360 civil society organizations, have trained 248 civil society representatives from 96 countries. The most recent multi-stakeholder workshop was held in September 2016 at the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) in Laxenburg, Austria.

69. UNODC and UNDP have worked extensively with the Pacific Youth Council and in-country youth councils and organizations to raise awareness of corruption. A youth officer was hired by the joint UNODC-UNDP Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project following the success of the first Pacific Youth Forum against Corruption. Integrity workshops and activities for young people were organized in Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, and active anti-corruption youth groups were established in Kiribati and Tonga.

70. UNODC continued its leading role in the ACAD Initiative, which seeks to encourage teaching and research on corruption-related issues by higher level education institutions. The UNODC model university course on the Convention, which includes resource materials, is now available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish. The Russian version will become available in 2017. More than 40 institutions around the world are delivering the course in whole or in part. ACAD further offers more than 1,800 free online resources, such as academic articles, books, publications and teaching materials covering an extensive range of anti-corruption themes and issues on the TRACK website.

71. Building on the work of ACAD, UNODC will expand its work on anti-corruption and integrity education in the coming years under a global project on education for justice which includes components on education for primary and secondary schools as well as for universities. The Education for Justice (E4J) initiative, part of the global programme for the implementation of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, seeks to prevent crime and promote a culture of lawfulness through education activities designed for primary, secondary and tertiary levels. These activities will help educators teach the next generation how to understand and address problems that can undermine the rule of law and will encourage students to actively engage in their communities and future professions in this regard. Through E4J, online tools and academic resources will be made available free of charge. In addition, workshops, conferences and symposiums will be organized for teachers and professors to learn, exchange ideas and promote research.

72. The Office continued to maintain a list of designated central authorities responsible for requests for mutual legal assistance in accordance with article 46,

paragraph 13, of the Convention. To date, 126 States have provided information regarding their central authorities.

73. UNODC continued its close cooperation with the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA), including by participating in the ninth annual conference and general meeting of IAACA, held in Tianjin, China, in May 2016. In the conference's outcome document, the Tianjin Declaration, States parties were called upon, *inter alia*, to be guided by the Convention when establishing anti-corruption bodies or reforming their mandate.

74. UNODC continued to support regional associations of anti-corruption authorities and networks of anti-corruption agencies, such as the African Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities, the East African Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities and the Network of National Anti-Corruption Institutions in West Africa. With UNODC support, the Network has set up a permanent secretariat in Senegal and has established a training academy for anti-corruption officials from the region in Nigeria. In South-East Asia, UNODC participated in the annual meeting of anti-corruption agencies that are members of the South-East Asian Parties against Corruption.

7. Wildlife and environmental crime

75. In its resolution 23/1, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice requested Member States to take full advantage of the international cooperation provisions of the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption to prevent and combat trafficking in forest products. Pursuant to that resolution, efforts are being undertaken to mainstream anti-corruption into the UNODC Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime to identify and counter corruption risks.

76. UNODC co-organized side events at the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora in September 2016 and the International Anti-Corruption Conference in December 2016 that highlighted the importance of addressing corruption linked to wildlife and forest crime.

77. UNODC worked closely with the Kenya Wildlife Service throughout 2016 to implement strategies to address key corruption risks. In October 2016, UNODC held a workshop on corruption risk mitigation strategies with authorities in the United Republic of Tanzania responsible for wildlife and forest management.

8. Cooperation with other entities

78. In the light of the increased demand for the provision of technical assistance, UNODC has adopted a prioritized and strategic approach in its delivery of technical assistance, seeking to coordinate and cooperate with other assistance providers and international organizations.

79. UNODC also continued to contribute to policy discussions about anti-corruption and development in both regional and international forums. Within the United Nations, UNODC actively participated in the discussions on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including on establishing measurable indicators for Goal 16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

80. UNODC also cooperates and coordinates with a number of other international organizations, including the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, OSCE, the Group of Seven and the Group of 20, UNESCO, INTERPOL, IACA, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Commonwealth secretariat, Eurojust, the Caribbean Community, the African Union, ECOWAS, SADC, the International Centre for Asset Recovery, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Group of States against Corruption of the Council of Europe, the

Basel Institute on Governance, Transparency International and the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC).

81. UNODC provided assistance to national institutions to strengthen their capacities to trace, seize, freeze, confiscate and return the proceeds of corruption. Work in that area was mainly conducted in the context of the StAR Initiative. Through the Initiative, UNODC has been actively supporting a number of regional networks in asset recovery, such as the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network of Southern Africa, the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for West Africa, the Asset Recovery Network of the Financial Action Task Force of Latin America against Money-Laundering, the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for Asia and the Pacific and the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for Eastern Africa, and has organized expert workshops on asset recovery. UNODC also actively partners with regional bodies similar to the Financial Action Task Force.

9. Meetings and special events

82. UNODC participated in the Asia-Pacific Economic Community's Pathfinder Dialogue III in August 2016.

83. UNODC continued its cooperation with GOPAC to strengthen the role of parliamentarians in the fight against corruption. In addition, workshops for members of parliament were hosted jointly by UNODC, UNDP and GOPAC in the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru and Palau in 2016 to raise awareness of the Convention and the oversight role of parliaments in its implementation. Specialized codes of conduct for parliamentarians and leaders were discussed and drafted. UNODC also supported the Independent Commission against Corruption in Mauritius in the development of a code of conduct for parliamentarians. In Nauru, UNODC supported efforts to adopt a leadership code for parliamentarians, which has been endorsed by the national parliament.

84. In 2017, a global forum on asset recovery will be co-hosted by the United Kingdom and the United States, and supported by the StAR Initiative. Priority countries seeking to advance the recovery of assets to be discussed at the forum include Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Tunisia and Ukraine.

IV. Recommendations

85. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice may wish to urge Member States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Organized Crime Convention and its Protocols and the Convention against Corruption and to take every step necessary to ensure their effective implementation, including by:

(a) Actively participating in the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention against Corruption and ensuring additional reliable funding for its functioning; and

(b) Supporting the ongoing process of establishing the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto, including by ensuring reliable funding for its functioning.

86. Furthermore, the Commission may wish to urge States to provide financial and material contributions for the convening of working groups and workshops for the implementation of those conventions and in fulfilment of mandates relating to international cooperation to combat transnational organized crime and corruption.