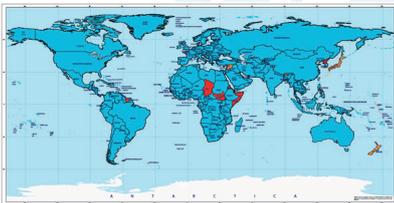




UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✿ Sixth Session Implementation Review Group of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Vienna, 1 to 5 June 2015)
- ✿ Sixth Intersessional Meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Prevention (Vienna, 31 August to 2 September 2015)
- ✿ Ninth Intersessional Meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery (Vienna, 3 to 4 September 2015)
- ✿ Sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Saint Petersburg, November 2015)

UNCAC STATUS



Announcements

Latest State party:
Germany 12 November 2014
Signatories: 140 Parties: 173



Message from the Chief

As we are celebrating International [Anti-Corruption Day](#) today, I would like to thank all those who have been supportive of UNODC's work and contributed to a greater appreciation by political leaders and society as a whole of the importance of the United Nations Convention against Corruption. With 9 December we are also moving closer to the end of 2014 and I would like to take this opportunity to point out a number of important events that 2015 will bring: The first cycle of the UNCAC peer review mechanism will be coming to an end and the Conference will take stock of the lessons learned during the first cycle, and will have a comprehensive picture of where States parties are in terms of implementation of the chapters on criminalization and law enforcement and international cooperation. This work will lead us to the launch of the second cycle of the mechanism which will look into the important chapters on prevention and asset recovery. 2015 is also the target date for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The importance of the prevention and control of corruption figures prominently in the discussions currently taking place to build the post-2015 Development Agenda. Finally, on 14 December 2015, we will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention. The achievements of the international community in this past year and in the short life of the Convention are remarkable. But we have a shared responsibility to keep the momentum alive and strive for uninterrupted and even more tangible results in our common fight against corruption.



With my best wishes for the Holiday Season,
Dimitri Vlassis, Chief, Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, UNODC

Officials and experts produce recommendations to curb foreign bribery within ASEAN



Participants of a UNODC [regional meeting](#) produced a set of [recommendations](#) to effectively curb foreign bribery within the ASEAN region. The recommendations are designed to be a resource tool to aid States to carry out their anti-corruption efforts as they embark on revising existing foreign bribery and mutual legal assistance laws and policy frameworks. UNODC, in collaboration with the Anti-Corruption Unit of the Kingdom of Cambodia and with the financial support of the Government of Japan, organized the "Regional Meeting on Curbing Foreign Bribery in ASEAN Economic Community" in October. UNODC is planning to build on this conference to produce a guidebook for practitioners to facilitate mutual legal assistance and international cooperation in foreign bribery cases within the ASEAN region.

Interested to learn more about the countries undergoing the UNCAC review process?

Visit the [IRG Country Profile Pages](#)

The latest 5 additions to the Executive Summaries are from the following countries:

- [Colombia](#) [Dominica](#) [Malta](#) [Poland](#) [Uruguay](#)

Training Tunisian authorities on financial investigations

As part of its capacity-building activities, UNODC, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, conducted two training courses for Tunisian judges and competent authorities on “financial investigations in support of asset recovery”. The trainings were held in Tunis in June and October 2014, as part of a series of training sessions to be delivered in 2014-2015. The trainings addressed practical aspects of financial investigation, tracing funds, linking the money with the corruption offence and the perpetrator, as well as aspects for international cooperation in respect of freezing, confiscation and recovery of assets.



5th Session of the Working Group on Prevention (Vienna, 8-10 September 2014)

The Working Group on Prevention continued its examination of preventive measures, focusing this time on the mandates of preventive anti-corruption bodies and on public sector measures to enhance transparency in the funding of candidatures for elected public office and political parties. In additional panel discussions, States reported on their efforts to conduct self-assessments of Chapter II of the Convention on prevention, in preparation for the next review cycle. As in the past, the reports and the submissions and presentations by States parties are available on the [webpage of the Working Group](#).

8th Session of the Working Group on Asset Recovery (Vienna, 11-12 September 2014)

The main items on the agenda of the [Working Group meeting](#) were a forum for advancing practical aspects of asset recovery, including challenges and good practices, and a forum for discussions on capacity-building and technical assistance. The thematic discussions of the Working Group focused on article 52 (Prevention and detection of transfers of proceeds of crime) and on article 53 (Measures for direct recovery of property) and other relevant articles of the Convention. As a result of its discussions, the Working Group recommended, inter alia, the collection of more information regarding international cooperation in civil and administrative proceedings, further development of non-binding guidelines on asset recovery and the preparation of practical guides for asset recovery.

The Regional Anti-Corruption Academy and the Universidad Ssanta María la Antigua of Panama launch an Anti-Corruption Diploma



In October 2014, the Regional Anti-Corruption Academy for Central America and the Caribbean (ARAC), in collaboration with the University Santa Maria la Antigua (USMA), launched a diploma on "Measures for the Prevention and Fight against Corruption", the first of its kind in the region in follow up of the Anti-Corruption Academic Initiative (ACAD) Initiative. With a total of 80 hours of classes, participants include government officials (judges, prosecutors, assistant prosecutors), researchers, and representatives of the Ministry of Health, the Electoral Tribunal, the Prison System, and the Financial Analysis Unit (UAF), as well as university students and independent participants.

Investigative journalism in the Sahel region: a critical role in tackling corruption and organized crime



Journalists from the Sahel region called for the establishment of a Centre for Investigative Journalism for West Africa with the aim of continuously strengthening the capacity of investigative journalists in the region during a [four-day workshop](#) organized by UNODC. In the [Saly Declaration](#) they highlighted the importance of networking in the region and the centrality of corruption

as a facilitating element in illicit trafficking, organized crime, and its multiple links with terrorism and instability in the Sahel region. UNODC organized this workshop in Saly, Senegal, in November, in partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Panos Institute West Africa (PIWA), the African Network of Centers for Investigative Reporting (ANCIR) and the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP). The workshop concluded that sound and ethical investigative journalism is of key importance in denouncing criminal acts and bringing those responsible to justice.