

Guiding questions

Briefing by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to the FACTI Panel

26 May 2020, 14:00 – 15:00 (UTC)

via Zoom (connection details will be sent by email)

Background

Ensuring effective implementation of the Addis Agenda to realize the transformative nature of the 2030 Agenda and the sustainable development goals requires global cooperation on financial accountability, transparency and integrity. The High-Level Panel on International Financial Accountability, Transparency and Integrity for Achieving the 2030 Agenda (FACTI Panel) was therefore convened by the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council. The Panel includes 17 high-level people from policy making, academia, civil society and the private sector. The Panel is mandated to explore further actions that may be needed by the international community in the following areas: financial and beneficial ownership transparency, tax matters, bribery and corruption, money laundering, confiscation and disposal of the proceeds of crime and the recovery and return of stolen assets.

In their first meeting held on 31 March 2020, Panel members considered a [background paper](#) and agreed to organize their work in three areas: cooperation in tax matters; transparency, public reporting and anti-corruption measures; and cooperation and settling disputes. Since late April, the Panel has held consultations with interested stakeholders to solicit comments and suggestions. A [short issues note](#), built on the background paper, informed the consultations. These consultation and expert inputs will feed into an interim report of findings to be presented in September 2020 and the final report expected in February 2021. The video of the consultations can be found at the [Panel's website](#).

Objectives

In this meeting, the FACTI Panel would like to hear from secretariat at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime about its relevant work and findings, particularly in relation to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption and the preparations for the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on corruption in 2021.

Guiding questions

1. How are the preparations for the United Nations Special Session on Corruption in 2021 being organised? What is the schedule for the negotiations on the outcome? Is the schedule likely to be affected by COVID-19 restrictions?

2. What are the Secretariat's expectations for the UNGASS 2021? Which issues are likely to be raised and where do you think consensus is likely?
3. What information can you share about the operation of the Implementation Review Mechanism of the UNCAC?
4. What are your conclusions, in aggregate, from an analysis of IRM peer reviews in the first round and those completed so far in the second round? What areas of UNCAC implementation are lagging behind?
5. Do you have any personal views on how to improve the effectiveness of the IRM?
6. Do you have any personal views on why UNCAC implementation lags in certain areas? How could implementation challenges be addressed?

Format/Programme

The virtual meeting will be structured as an open discussion.

Opening remarks (7 min)

– *Ms. Susan Rose-Ackerman, FACTI Panel cluster coordinator*

Open discussion (50 min)

Closing remarks (3 min)