

## ECOSOC Resolution 2005/18

### **Action against corruption: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the entry into force and subsequent implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Deeply concerned* about the impact of corruption on the political, social and economic stability and development of societies,

*Bearing in mind* that the prevention and combating of corruption is a common and shared responsibility of the international community, necessitating cooperation at the bilateral and multilateral levels,

*Bearing in mind also* that the prevention and elimination of corruption is a responsibility of all States and that they must cooperate with one another, with the support and involvement of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, if their efforts to prevent and combat corruption are to be effective,

*Reaffirming its support and commitment* to the goals of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular the objectives set forth in the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 58/4 of 31 October 2003, in which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Corruption and urged all States and competent regional economic integration organizations to sign and ratify it,

*Noting with appreciation* the High-level Political Conference for the Purpose of Signing the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Merida, Mexico, from 9 to 11 December 2003,<sup>2</sup>

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 59/155 of 20 December 2004, entitled "Action against corruption: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the entry into force and subsequent implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption",

*Noting with appreciation* the initiative of the States that have made financial contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption by developing countries and by countries with economies in transition,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Convention against Corruption;<sup>3</sup>

2. *Welcomes* the signing of the United Nations Convention against Corruption by a large number of Member States and the

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<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution 55/59, annex.

<sup>2</sup> See A/CONF.205/2.

<sup>3</sup> E/CN.15/2005/9.

ratification of the Convention by an increasing number of Member States, which reflects the high level of commitment on the part of the international community to the purpose of the Convention;

3. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the United Nations Convention against Corruption as soon as possible, in order to allow its early entry into force and to facilitate its effective implementation;

4. *Also urges* Member States to promote a culture of integrity and accountability in both the public sector and the private sector, and calls upon them to adopt measures to facilitate the recovery and return of assets that are consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to make adequate voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund to provide developing countries and countries with economies in transition with the technical assistance that they may require to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption, including assistance for the preparatory measures required for implementation, taking into account article 62 of the Convention;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the entry into force and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, inter alia, through the provision of assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for building capacity in the areas covered by the Convention;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, within available extrabudgetary resources, not excluding the use of existing resources from the regular budget of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,<sup>4</sup> to finalize the legislative guide for the United Nations Convention against Corruption and, building on the experience gained in the preparation of the guide, to consider preparing manuals and other tools to facilitate implementation of the Convention;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifteenth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*36th plenary meeting  
22 July 2005*

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<sup>4</sup> This new language does not provide a basis for an increase in the regular budget or requests for supplemental increases.