

11th Session of the UNCAC CoSP

Briefing for Civil Society – 5 February 2025

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Agenda of the briefing

- Preliminary information about CoSP 11
- Modalities for civil society CoSP participation and possible impact
- Our network advocacy priorities for CoSP 11
- UNCAC-related key events in 2025
- Implementation of CoSP 10 adopted resolutions & civil society's role
- Update: deliberations on the next phase of the UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism (IRM)
- Q&A

About the UNCAC Coalition

- Civil society umbrella organization working focusing on monitoring and implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)
- Goals: To ensure that the voice of civil society is heard in UNCAC fora
 - Advocacy for policy priorities and civic space
 - Elevate anti-corruption standards and practices (Resolutions)
- Facilitation of joint advocacy, networking and coordination among civil society groups, including through 5 regional groups and 7 thematic working groups
- Support to civil society groups engaging in the UNCAC implementation review process
- Regular engagement with delegations in Vienna
- CoSP: We facilitate, share information, support where we can – are not organizers

UNCAC Conference of the States Parties (CoSP)

- Main policy-making body of the UNCAC
- Main outcome: adoption of resolutions and decisions (by consensus)
 - Can put focus on a specific issue / policy area; ideally elevate agreed standards, include calls to action for States, follow-up mandates
- Policy guidance to UNODC to develop and implement anti-corruption activities
- Side events (“special events”)
- Civil society observers allowed at the CoSP (not subsidiary bodies)
- Subsidiary bodies of the CoSP meet in Vienna
 - Working Groups on Prevention, Asset Recovery; Implementation Review Group; Expert Meeting on International Cooperation

UNCAC Conference of the States Parties (CoSP)

- Every two years (CoSP10 in Atlanta, USA, Dec 2023)
- Largest governmental / UN anti-corruption event
- Admission enables observer participation until next CoSP
 - In annual UNCAC NGO briefing, intersessional meetings, special sessions
- **11th session in Doha, Qatar, 15-19 December 2025**
- Primarily in-person participation
 - aspects of online participation TBD
- Civil Society preparatory day on-site: 14 December (TBC)

CoSP11: Assumptions & Context

- Host country appears supportive of international civil society participation
- Geo-political situation impacts consensus
- Change in U.S. Government (current CoSP President) will impact CoSP fora and funding
- Early and coordinated engagement will increase advocacy impact on resolutions and CoSP agenda
- CSO experts in government delegations increase advocacy impact (participation in negotiations)

Why should you consider participating?

- Showcase civil society work and expertise on anti-corruption
 - Side events, statements, etc.
- Impact CoSP resolutions and discussions – help to raise the bar on global anti-corruption commitments and standards
- Monitor States’ commitments & positions on anti-corruption
- Network with government officials, CSOs, international organizations
- Strengthen space for CSO participation at UN level
- Raises your organization’s profile; opportunities for advocacy

CSO Participation: modalities

- In-person participation as part of a CSO delegation
- In-person participation in your country delegation (if interested, contact your gov. ASAP)
- Travel: On your own cost
 - Host country, together with UNODC, will explore possibility of funding a small group of CSOs – no dedicated support from other donors to cover travel
- Civil society [toolkit for CoSP participation](#)

COSP10: Civil Society participation and impact

- 405 in-person representatives, all objections removed (registered: 900+)
- 159 CSO delegations (330 registered)
- 25% of total CoSP participants were from civil society
- **Strong impact** on the adoption of resolutions on BoT, Public Procurement, Protection of Reporting Persons
- **Meaningful impact** on resolutions on Societal Impacts of Corruption (Gender & Corruption), Corruption and Organized Crime, the ATL Declaration
- 86 written submissions and approx. 30 CSO side events
- Civil society representatives in 11 country delegations from all regions

Community Feedback from CoSP 10



- Overwhelming amount of information on procedure
- Share more info on:
 - side event opportunities
 - how to prepare plenary statements
 - country delegations contacts
 - negotiations and opportunities for CSO mobilization on resolutions pre-CoSP

Community Feedback & Challenges

- More joint written statements
- Lack of media coverage
- Improve security of NGO lounge
- Build capacity of country delegations to be more involved in negotiations
- Funding opportunities to attend CoSP & follow-up efforts
- Need for periodic briefings to monitor follow-up and impact
- Engage with supporting countries on possible follow-up
- Start early on CoSP 11 advocacy

CSO Participation: Key objectives

- Wide participation and strong presence of civil society
- No NGOs are excluded from the Conference due to unjustified government objections
- Meaningful impact of civil society on the CoSP agenda & deliberations
- Meaningful resolutions are adopted
- Other collective objectives?

What makes a resolution meaningful?

- Strengthen & raise the bar on existing commitments
- Elaborate on necessary actions rather than reiterating a general call for implementation.
- Provide mandates for States parties to share information and for UNODC to do research, reporting and develop up-to-date guides
- Set the agenda for CoSP subsidiary bodies discussions
- Influence technical assistance provided to requesting States parties

Priority Issues for CoSP 11

- **States parties priorities:**
 - The UNCAC IRM next phase, asset recovery, law enforcement & international Cooperation, Prevention, technical assistance
 - **Possibly also:** corruption measurement, anti-corruption education, environmental crime & corruption.
- Consulting on our collective network priorities
 - What do we mean by priorities?
 - Call to share input in **February-March** (dedicated Google form & annual survey)
 - Decision based on a balanced approach
 - Collective efforts not to replace regional or individual efforts

Possible additional Priority Issues

- Protecting civic space
- Political finance transparency and integrity
- Grand corruption
- Enablers
- Combating Environmental crime and corruption (including integrity in climate finance)
- Combating corruption in procurement
- Whistleblower protection
- Victims of corruption
- Human rights & Corruption
- Whistleblower protection
- Asset and interest declarations
- Debt
- Other?

CoSP11: estimated registration timeline

- UNODC will publish call for interest for civil society **by end of April**
 - We expect a 6 week window for Non-ECOSOC NGOs to express interest
- ECOSOC-NGOs can express interest until a few weeks before the Conference
- Window for side event applications likely in **August-September**
- NGO receives an invitation from UNODC (if no objection was raised)
- Final step: Registration done through INDICO system
- [Guide for Indico registration](#)

Opportunities for civil society contributions

- Written submissions to CoSP
- Oral statements in plenary
- Side events (led by CSOs/ partnering with States & other stakeholders)
- Networking and engagement
- Advocacy to impact resolutions
 - Engaging with delegates to propose language and encourage stronger commitments in resolutions
- On-site activities and actions

Joining a government delegation allows for participation in negotiations and non-public meetings – but means losing the rights of observers.

UNCAC IRM next phase deliberations

- **17-21 Feb:** States parties will convene in the IRG plenary to deliberate
- **March- June:** A State party will table a zero draft resolution on the next phase
- **June/September (Working Group Sessions)- December (CoSP):** Informal negotiations
- **December (CoSP):** Adoption of resolution on the scope and modalities of the IRM next phase

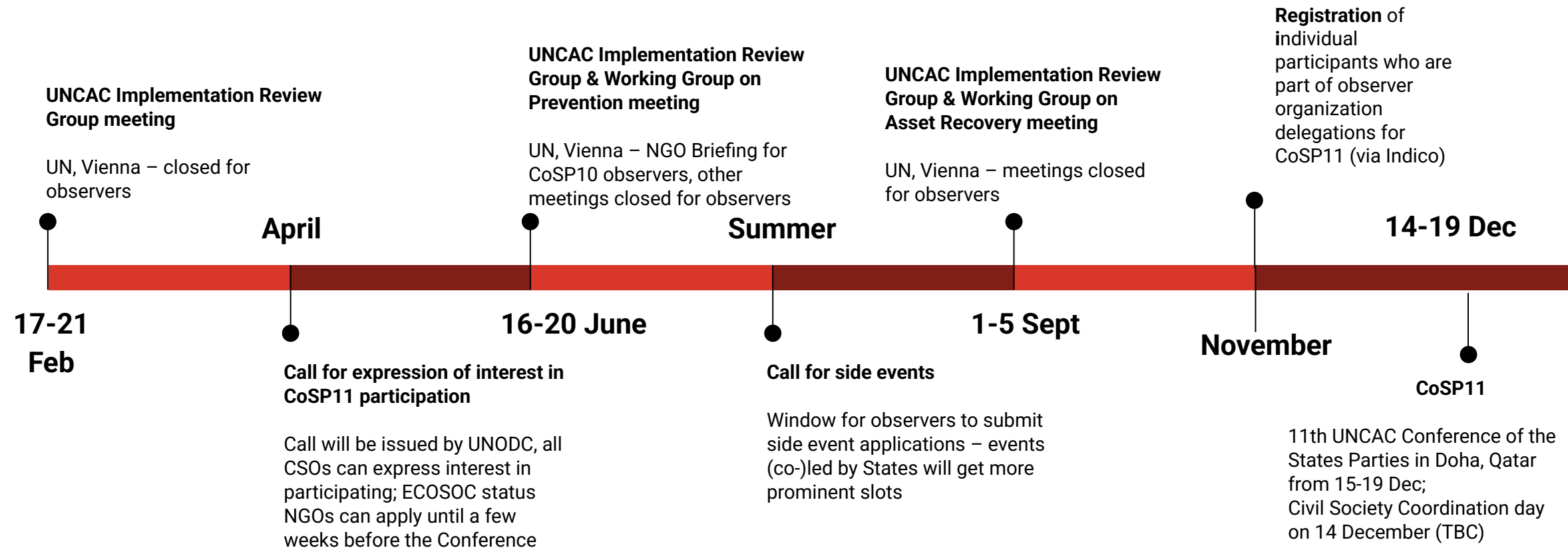
Our actions

- Reaching out to States parties & mobilising CSOs to do the same
- [Key recommendations](#) and our [analysis](#) of UNODC “options paper”
- Sign on to our [Open Letter](#) on **Enhancing Anti-corruption Efforts Globally by Adopting a More Effective, Transparent and Inclusive UNCAC Review Mechanism**

CoSP 10 implementation

- On the agenda for 2025: Organized Crime, Protection of Reporting Persons, BOT, Procurement
- Civil society can monitor and advocate for implementation of resolutions & reporting
- States should reply to UNODC's [questionnaires on implementation](#), publish info on CoSP subsidiary bodies websites - Civil society can support country responses on challenges and good practices
- Civil society can make parallel submissions (CoSP 10-accredited and ECOSOC NGOs can publish submissions on the IRG website in June 2025)
- Encourage Gov. to include civil society experts on delegations, panels, deliver statements
- UNCAC Coalition updated [survey & guidance on CoSP10 implementation](#)

CoSP-related timeline 2025



Resources and Guidance

- [UNCAC Coalition CoSP11 page](#) (non-official)
- Civil society [toolkit for CoSP participation](#)
- UNCAC Coalition guide for governments: [Supporting meaningful civil society participation in the CoSP](#)
- UNCAC Coalition newsletter (<https://uncaccoalition.org/newsletter/>)
- UNODC [Guidance note for NGOs \(2019\)](#)
- CoSP website by host country (forthcoming)
- [COSP page on UNODC website](#) (forthcoming)

Resources and Guidance

- UNCAC IRM next phase: [Key recommendations](#)
- UNCAC Coalition updated [survey & guidance on CoSP10 implementation](#)
- UNCAC Coalition [Survey & guidance on CoSP10 implementation \(Part I\)](#)

Contacts at UNODC:

- Civil Society Unit: unodc-ngounit@un.org
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Thank you very much for your attention!

In case you have questions or require further information, please contact us:

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