

Roadmap
towards the
**Establishment of the Global Operational Network
of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities**

GlobE Network



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1. Background and Introduction to the GlobE Network

One of the main purposes of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (the Convention) is to promote, facilitate and support international cooperation and technical assistance in the prevention of and fight against corruption, including in asset recovery. The Conference of the States Parties to the Convention has repeatedly called for enhanced measures to further promote, facilitate and support international cooperation and technical assistance in the prevention of and fight against corruption, and has requested UNODC to provide, in its programs of technical assistance, measures to enhance the effectiveness of international cooperation, including in relation to offences covered by the Convention, before seeking mutual legal assistance. Improving international cooperation in anti-corruption has also been a priority for the Anti-Corruption Working Group of the G20.

In 2020, the first G20 Anti-Corruption Ministerial Meeting, inter alia, welcomed the “Riyadh Initiative towards the Creation of a Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities”. The creation of this Network is now further welcomed by the Special Session of the UN General Assembly against Corruption on 2 June 2021 which in its political declaration encourages States to participate in and make best use of this network, as appropriate. As the guardian of the Convention, UNODC is accordingly supporting the establishment of the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network) to facilitate informal cooperation among anti-corruption law enforcement entities. This Roadmap serves as a basis to establish the Network.

The GlobE Network’s membership is open to anti-corruption law enforcement authorities from all Member States of the United Nations and all States parties to the Convention. The Network aims to enhance direct contact between anti-corruption law enforcement authorities, empower a wider range of countries to engage in international cooperation, and complement other existing platforms that enable such cooperation.

Setting up a new global initiative is a challenging process. UNODC engaged in a deliberative process involving the Permanent Missions in Vienna, a meeting of experts, and most importantly, the establishment of 3 Interim tasks forces to advise on the different components of the Network.

UNODC organized a meeting of experts on the Establishment of the GlobE Network, on 3-4 March 2021. The meeting brought together over 130 technical experts and participants from 53 States, from the five Regional Groups of the United Nations and 21 international organizations and entities, in addition to several independent renowned experts. Key emerging points from the meeting were: the necessity for the GlobE Network to be an inclusive Network owned by its members, the necessity of establishing a strong permanent secretariat for the Network that would include a help desk to address specific questions and provide guidance to members, the need to involve practitioners in the GlobE Network operations, the need to ensure cooperation and synergy between GlobE Network and existing networks, and the need for user-friendly communication platform that draws on current technological advances and is regularly updated. The meeting of experts also generated

the proposal to establish three interim taskforces to provide technical guidance for the establishment and operation of the Network.

2. Mandates of the Interim Task Forces (ITFS) and work undertaken by the ITFS

The following three interim taskforces (ITFs) were established:

1. ITF 1 on Set-up and Operations of the GlobE Network – to discuss membership, structure, functioning and other operational issues;
2. ITF 2 on Synergies with other Existing Networks and Platforms – to discuss complementarity and synergies between the GlobE Network and other relevant operational and liaison networks; and
3. ITF 3 on Tools and Services of the GlobE Network – to discuss architecture of the One-Stop Hub, including the development of the decision tree and the secure communication platform, and other tools and services to meet the needs for knowledge and capacity development.

The three task forces were composed of 90 experts from 28 States and 13 international organizations and entities and held 16 meetings between 16 April and 21 May, 2021.

3. ITF Outcomes and progress

There was a strong support among ITF participants for the operational need to establish a global network of anti-corruption law enforcement authorities, in particular to enhance international cooperation. The Interim Task forces delivered the following outcomes:

ITF 1

1. A document containing “Proposed elements of a charter” related to the vision, aim and objectives of the Network, membership criteria, decision-making process and governance structure among others.

ITF 2

1. A decision tree concept that will provide guidance to practitioners on which network to use for various purposes in the investigation and prosecution of corruption cases with an international dimension.
2. An initial plan for reducing duplication and enhancing synergies with other existing networks.

3. An overview of possible joint initiatives with other international organizations to support GlobE Network

ITF 3

1. An initial concept for the One-Stop Hub, including what information to be included, links to other relevant knowledge portals, technical requirements for the decision tree, etc.
2. An initial concept for the development of a secure communication platform for GlobE Network members, covering its objectives, key principles, functionalities, etc.
3. An initial concept on the development of knowledge products and the deployment of capacity building for GlobE Network members.

4. The GlobE Network's Framework

The Globe Network's framework is based on discussions within the ITF meetings. It includes the principle elements of the Globe Network and provides the tool for joining and further developing the Network.

Introduction

The GlobE Network is established under the auspices of UNODC to facilitate informal inter-agency cooperation among anti-corruption law enforcement authorities, as referred to in article 48 of the Convention.

Aim

The aim of the GlobE Network is to provide a quick, agile and efficient tool for facilitating transnational cooperation in combating corruption, strengthening communication exchange and peer learning between anti-corruption law enforcement authorities, while complementing and coordinating with relevant international cooperation platforms.

Objectives

The GlobE Network shall pursue the following objectives:

- a) Facilitate direct and informal cooperation between anti-corruption law enforcement authorities;
- b) Establish secure channels of communication;
- c) Facilitate, as needed, parallel or joint bilateral or multilateral investigations;
- d) Improve the effectiveness of international cooperation globally through pre-mutual legal assistance consultation and enhanced law enforcement cooperation in transnational corruption cases;

- e) Enhance the knowledge, innovation and capacities of anti-corruption law enforcement authorities and exchange good practice;
- f) Develop an online one-stop hub to provide knowledge products and support capacity building programmes;
- g) Complement and ensure synergies with other relevant networks and stakeholders; and
- h) Any other objective agreed upon by its members, to facilitate cooperation in combatting corruption.

Membership

The GlobE Network's membership is open to specialized authorities, as referred to in Article 36 of the Convention, from all Member States and States parties. The network may also include other membership categories, for example observer and associate members to ensure inclusion of all other relevant networks and organisations.

The Structure of GlobE

The network will develop its own organisational structure. It will include a Permanent Secretariat and may also include a Plenary and a Steering Committee.

The Permanent Secretariat

- a) The Permanent Secretariat function for the Network is provided and administered by the Corruption and Economic Crime Branch of UNODC. The Permanent Secretariat shall be composed of qualified personnel with specialized skills and expertise, including language skills, to respond to all the demands and needs of members.
- b) The Permanent Secretariat is responsible for supporting the effective functioning of the day-to-day activities of the Network, including the sessions of the Network, and performs the following functions:
 - i. Support the daily activities of the Network
 - ii. Maintain a list of Members and their Contact Points;
 - iii. Send invitations for meetings of the Network;
 - iv. Prepare meeting documents;
 - v. Support the preparation and maintain the workplans of the Network;
 - vi. Assist in raising funds, as may be appropriate, to enable the Network to achieve its vision, aim and objectives;
 - vii. Build synergies with other relevant networks and bodies;
 - viii. Maintain the tools and services of the Network;
 - ix. Manage the electoral processes;

- x. Oversee any media strategies and communications in connection with the GlobE Network;
 - xi. Carry out all other tasks as requested by the Plenary, within available resources.
- c) The Permanent Secretariat is managed by a staff member designated as “Coordinator of the Network”.

Financial Resources

The Network’s financial resources comprise mainly of:

- a) UN Member State contributions;
- b) In-kind contributions and other forms of financial assistance from individuals or entities, if accepted by the UN Secretariat.

The financial resources of the GlobE Network shall be managed as per the UN rules and procedures.

Official Working Language

The working language of the GlobE Network is English.

Interpretation and translation services will be provided by the Permanent Secretariat when feasible and within existing resources.

5. Launch and Mechanism for joining the GlobE Network and shaping its operational future

Launch of the GlobE Network

The GlobE Network will be launched at a Special Event in the side-lines of the special session of the General Assembly against Corruption on 3 June 2021. This Roadmap serves as a basis to establish the Network.

Process for joining the Network

The Secretariat will send invitations to join the Network after its launch. Specialized authorities as referred to in Article 36 of the Convention (anti-corruption law enforcement authorities) from UN Member States and States Parties to the Convention may transmit their request to join the GlobE Network, through their country’s Permanent Mission to the UN.

When considering joining the Network, authorities are encouraged to review, wherever possible, the information provided by their country under article 36 in the context of the UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism.

Where the number of requests exceeds 3 per country, the Permanent Secretariat shall request the Permanent Mission to identify the 3 authorities to be members of the Network. Other relevant

national authorities will also be able to benefit from and contribute to the work of the Network according to a mechanism to be established by the members.

Shaping the Network

The membership, structure and functioning of the GlobE Network shall be decided on by its members – who may draw on the proposed elements of the network designed by the ITF 1 participants – in a constitutive document.

This document shall be agreed on after members from at least 30 countries have joined the Network and shall be adopted by a decision of the members taken by consensus. In the absence of consensus, a majority of 2/3 of the attending and voting members will be accepted. Members may vote on the basis that members from the same Member State or State party will jointly have one vote. The Secretariat shall ensure that the establishment document is in line with the UN principles, rules and regulations, and can be implemented using available resources.

Annex

Outputs of three Interim Task Forces (ITFs) for the establishment of the GlobE Network

1. [Proposed Elements of a Charter](#) (ITF1)
2. [Recommendations Towards Reducing Duplication and Enhancing Synergies \(Initial Action Plan\)](#) (ITF2)
3. [Networks' Membership Mapping Chart](#) (ITF2)
4. [Initial Structure of the Decision Tree](#) (ITF2 & ITF3)
5. [Initial Concept for the One-Stop Hub](#) (ITF3)
6. Initial Concept for the Secure Communication Platform (ITF3) – *available to Task Force members*
7. [Initial Concept for the Development of Knowledge Products](#) (ITF3)
8. [Initial Concept for Deployment of Rapid Capacity Development](#) (ITF3)