The GlobE Network
Proposed Elements of a Charter
Preamble ........................................................................................................................................... 3
SECTION I: GENERAL PROVISIONS ................................................................................................. 4
  Paragraph 1: Definitions ................................................................................................................ 4
SECTION II: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NETWORK .............................................................. 5
  Paragraph 2: Introduction ........................................................................................................... 5
  Paragraph 3: Name ..................................................................................................................... 5
SECTION III: VISION, AIM AND OBJECTIVES ........................................................................... 5
  Paragraph 4: Vision ..................................................................................................................... 5
  Paragraph 5: Aim ........................................................................................................................ 5
  Paragraph 6: Objectives .............................................................................................................. 5
SECTION IV: MEMBERSHIP OF THE NETWORK ........................................................................ 6
  Paragraph 7: Membership categories ........................................................................................ 6
  Paragraph 8: Definition of Membership Categories .................................................................... 6
  Paragraph 9: Membership criteria and process .......................................................................... 6
  Paragraph 10: Member Roles and Responsibilities ................................................................. 7
  Paragraph 11: Cessation of Membership .................................................................................... 7
SECTION V: ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE ......................................................................... 7
  Paragraph 12: Governance ......................................................................................................... 7
  Sub-Section I: The Plenary .......................................................................................................... 8
    Paragraph 13: Composition and Decision-making Process ................................................... 8
    Paragraph 14: Responsibilities of the Plenary .......................................................................... 8
  Sub-Section II: The Steering Committee .................................................................................... 8
    Paragraph 15: Composition of the Steering Committee and Decision-making Process ........ 8
    Paragraph 16: Responsibilities of the Steering Committee .................................................... 9
  Sub-section III: The Permanent Secretariat ............................................................................. 10
    Paragraph 17: Composition and Functions .......................................................................... 10
SECTION VI: FINANCIAL RESOURCES ................................................................................... 11
  Paragraph 18: Sources of funds ................................................................................................. 11
  Paragraph 19: Management of Resources ............................................................................... 11
SECTION VII: MECHANISM FOR ADOPTION OF A CHARTER ................................................ 11
  Paragraph 20: The Charter ...................................................................................................... 11
Preamble

Recognizing the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) adopted on 31 October 2003, which entered into force on 14 December 2005;

Recognizing the political declaration adopted by the UN General Assembly at its Special Session against Corruption on 2 June 2021;

Recognizing that cooperation between and among anti-corruption law enforcement authorities across national borders both increases the effectiveness of individual authorities and contributes to the success of the global fight against corruption;

Recognizing that effective international cooperation between and among anti-corruption law enforcement authorities must be based on a foundation of mutual trust;

Recognizing that obstacles continue to limit information exchange and effective cooperation between many anti-corruption law enforcement authorities;

Recalling that 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, as the guardian of the Convention, 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;

Recalling that each State Party to UNCAC shall, in accordance with the fundamental principles of its legal system, ensure the existence of a body or bodies or persons specialized in combating corruption through law enforcement and that such body or bodies or persons shall be granted the necessary independence [...] to be able to carry out their functions effectively and without any undue influence (Article 36 UNCAC);

Recalling that States Parties to UNCAC shall afford one another the widest measure of mutual legal assistance in investigations, prosecutions and judicial proceedings in relation to the offences covered by UNCAC (Article 46 UNCAC);

Recalling that States Parties to UNCAC shall cooperate closely with one another, consistent with their respective domestic legal and administrative systems, to enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement action to combat the offences covered by UNCAC (Article 48 UNCAC);

Recalling that States Parties to UNCAC may consider UNCAC to be the basis for mutual law enforcement cooperation in respect of the offences covered by UNCAC (Article 48 UNCAC);
Recalling that States Parties to UNCAC shall take effective measures to enhance and, where necessary, to establish channels of communication between their competent authorities, agencies and services in order to facilitate the secure and rapid exchange of information concerning all aspects of the offences covered by UNCAC (Article 48 UNCAC);

Taking note of the Jakarta Statement on Principles for Anti-Corruption Agencies adopted in November 2012 to ensure the independence and effectiveness of anti-corruption agencies (ACAs), including those with law enforcement mandates;

Considering the need to strengthen the effectiveness of international cooperation between anti-corruption law enforcement authorities;

Mindful of the rule of law, integrity, transparency, accountability, international peace and security, economic and social development and human rights;

Taking note of the G20 Anti-Corruption Ministerial Meeting on 22 October 2020 and the G20 Riyadh Summit Leaders Declaration, which, inter alia, welcomed the “Riyadh Initiative for Enhancing International Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Cooperation, through the Creation of a Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities”;

The GlobE Network is established under the auspices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and is open to Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities of Member States of the United Nations and State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The Network was launched on the occasion of the Special Session of the General Assembly against corruption on 3 June 2021.

SECTION I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Paragraph 1: Definitions

For the purposes of this Charter:

a) “Convention” shall mean the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

b) “UNODC” shall mean United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

c) “Anti-corruption Law Enforcement Authorities” shall mean specialized authorities as referred to in Article 36 of the Convention;

d) “GlobE Network” or “the Network” shall mean the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities;

e) “State party” shall mean State party to the Convention;

f) “Member State” shall mean Member State of the United Nations;

g) “Chair” shall mean Chair of the Plenary and the Steering Committee;

h) “Statutory bodies of the Network” shall mean the Plenary and the Steering Committee.
SECTION II: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NETWORK

Paragraph 2: 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.

Paragraph 3: Name
The name of the network shall be the “Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities”, referred to as “GlobE Network”.

SECTION III: VISION, AIM AND OBJECTIVES

Paragraph 4: Vision
Timely and efficient transnational cooperation against corruption.

Paragraph 5: 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.

Paragraph 6: 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.

SECTION IV: MEMBERSHIP OF THE NETWORK

Paragraph 7: Membership categories
The GlobE Network will have three categories of members:

a) Full members;

b) Associate members; and

c) Observers.

Paragraph 8: Definition of Membership Categories

a) Full members are anti-corruption law enforcement authorities from Member States or States parties who have applied as per the procedure in article 9.

b) Associate members are global and regional networks, organisations and other bodies engaged with the law enforcement operational activities contributing to the investigation and prosecution of corruption and related asset recovery.

c) Observers are global and regional networks, organisations and other bodies that, although not involved in law enforcement operational activities, perform a complementary strategic function in targeting corruption.

Paragraph 9: Membership criteria and process

a) Full membership of the GlobE Network is open to specialized authorities as referred to in Article 36 of the Convention (anti-corruption law enforcement authorities) from all Member States and States Parties;

b) Anti-corruption law enforcement authorities may transmit their request to join the GlobE Network, through their country’s Permanent Mission to the UN;

c) 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.

d) 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.

e) 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.
An additional 3 specialized authorities from “special status jurisdictions” of Member States or States Parties may transmit their request to join the GlobE Network, through their country’s Permanent Mission to the UN;

g) Associate members and observers shall be considered and endorsed by the GlobE Steering Committee following submission of a letter of application to the Permanent Secretariat.

**Paragraph 10: Member Roles and Responsibilities**

a) Full members can participate in the statutory bodies of the Network as per the modalities determined by the Plenary;

b) Associate members and observers may attend the GlobE Network Plenary meetings. They have an advisory role, without voting rights;

c) Full and Associate members and Observers shall endeavour to support the GlobE Network’s vision, aim and objectives.

**Paragraph 11: Cessation of Membership**

a) Full members may withdraw their membership from the Network at any time by giving notice to the Permanent Secretariat through a Note Verbale sent by their respective Member State or State Party;

b) Associate members and Observers may withdraw their membership from the Network at any time by giving notice to the Permanent Secretariat through a formal letter.

**SECTION V: ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**

**Paragraph 12: Governance**

The organisational structure of the GlobE Network comprises three (3) bodies:

a) The Plenary;

b) The Steering Committee; and

c) The Permanent Secretariat

In addition to the principal bodies listed above, the Plenary can also create subsidiary bodies as the need arises towards realising the objectives of the GlobE Network.
Sub-Section I: The Plenary

Paragraph 13: Composition and Decision-making Process

a) The Plenary comprises the following:
   1. Full members;
   2. Associate members; and
   3. Observers

b) The Chair of the Steering Committee is also the Chair of the Plenary and may be supported by other members of the Steering Committee.

c) The Plenary shall have an ordinary session convened by the Chair once a year and an extraordinary session whenever necessary, on the basis of an agenda determined by the Steering Committee.

d) Decisions shall be taken by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, decisions shall be taken by voting.

e) Only Full members may vote on the basis that members designated by the same Member State or State party will jointly have one vote in the Plenary meetings.

Paragraph 14: Responsibilities of the Plenary

The Plenary shall be responsible for:

a) Adopting and reviewing the Charter, the internal rules of procedure or any other instrument that may be required for the Network to function effectively;

b) Electing members of the Steering Committee;

c) Validating the status of associate members and observers;

d) Reviewing the annual workplan of the Network;

e) Deciding on any other matter necessary for the Network to function effectively.

Sub-Section II: The Steering Committee

Paragraph 15: Composition of the Steering Committee and Decision-making Process

a) The Steering Committee is the governing body of the Network. It is composed of five members elected by the Plenary as follows:
   1. Chair;
   2. Vice-Chair and
3. Three members.

b) The composition of the Steering Committee shall reflect the United Nations Regional Groups;

c) The Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the Steering Committee are elected for a non-renewable mandate of two (2) years;

d) The Chair and the Vice-Chair shall be elected on a rotational basis between the United Nations Regional Groups.

e) The Steering Committee shall meet at least two times a year and as often as required in the interest of the Network at the request of the Chair or two members of the Steering Committee.

f) Decisions shall be taken by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, decisions shall be taken by voting.

**Paragraph 16: Responsibilities of the Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee shall be responsible for:

a) Guiding the Network and its Plenary to ensure that its stated vision, aim and objectives are achieved;

b) Reviewing and approving applications for Associate and Observer membership;

c) Preparing the annual workplan, in coordination and with the support of the Permanent Secretariat;

d) Presenting the annual report and workplan to the Plenary;

e) Planning and preparing annual Plenary meetings, extraordinary Plenary meetings and suggesting thematic working groups;

f) Ensuring that Plenary decisions are implemented and assess their impact on the growth and efficiency of the Network;

g) Representing the Network in national and international fora;

h) Contributing to the development and maintenance of strategic alliances and political support for the Network;

i) Working towards strengthening the reputation and visibility of the Network;

j) Mobilizing additional financial support for the Network from UN Member States and other donors, as appropriate;

k) Deciding on other measures necessary for the Network to function effectively.
Sub-section III: The Permanent Secretariat

Paragraph 17: Composition and Functions

a) The Permanent Secretariat function for the Network is provided and administered by the Corruption and Economic Crime Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. 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 Plenary and the Steering Committee, and performs the following functions:

   i. Support the daily activities of the Network
   ii. Maintain a list of Members and their Contact Points;
   iii. Inform members of decisions of the Plenary and the Steering Committee;
   iv. Send invitations for meetings of the Network;
   v. Prepare meeting documents;
   vi. Support the preparation and maintain the workplans of the Network;
   vii. Assist in raising funds, as may be appropriate, to enable the Network to achieve its vision, aim and objectives;
   viii. Build synergies with other relevant networks and bodies;
   ix. Maintain the tools and services of the Network;
   x. Manage the electoral processes;
   xi. Oversee any media strategies and communications in connection with the GlobE Network with the support of the Steering Committee;
   xii. Carry out all other tasks as requested by the Plenary and the Steering Committee, within available resources.

c) The Permanent Secretariat is managed by a staff member designated as “Coordinator of the Network”.
SECTION VI: FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Paragraph 18: Sources of funds
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 and the Steering Committee.

Paragraph 19: Management of Resources
The financial resources of the GlobE Network shall be managed as per the UN rules and procedures.

SECTION VII: MECHANISM FOR ADOPTION OF A CHARTER

Paragraph 20: The Charter
   a) A Charter or other instrument, building on the elements contained in this document may be adopted after members from at least 30 Member States or States Parties have joined the Network.
   b) The Charter shall be drafted in close coordination and with the support of the Permanent Secretariat. The Plenary shall decide on the modalities for engagement of members based on such options as may be presented by the members and the Secretariat.
   c) The Charter shall be adopted by a decision of the Plenary taken by consensus. In the absence of consensus, a majority of 2/3 of the attending and voting members is required.
   d) Prior to the adoption of the Charter and to the approval of any future amendments to the Charter, the Permanent Secretariat shall ensure that the text of the Charter and any amendments to the Charter are in line with the UN principles, rules and regulations, and can be implemented using available resources.

SECTION VIII: FINAL PROVISIONS

Paragraph 21: 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.