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Issued by the Working Group on Transparency and Reporting

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WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPARENCY AND REPORTING

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR MEETING OF 28-29 APRIL 2021

Annex: introductory paper of the WGTR Co-Chairs

Opening and adoption of the draft annotated agenda[i]

Under this agenda item, WGTR participants will have the opportunity to share remarks about this draft annotated agenda and to propose additional agenda items under AOB.

1. State of play of compliance with reporting obligations

*Under this agenda item, the ATT Secretariat will give **a general overview of the reporting status**, and of the progress that has been made in comparison to the previous status update. Subsequently the Co-Chairs will invite WGTR participants to share their views.*

2. Challenges concerning reporting

*Under this agenda item, WGTR participants will first have the opportunity to share any **challenges to submitting timely and accurate initial and annual reports** they are facing. Particularly States Parties that have not yet complied with all their reporting obligations are urged to share the obstacles that have kept them from reporting.*

*Concerning the **"Outreach strategy on reporting"**, States Parties, civil society and regional organizations will be asked to brief WGTR participants about any information sessions or promotional events on reporting that they have held since CSP6, and about any other initiatives focused on enhancing compliance with the reporting requirements, including support received from the VTF to enhance reporting capacities.*

*Regarding the '**FAQ'-type guidance document on the annual reporting obligation**, WGTR participants will have the opportunity to discuss submitted proposals for alterations or additional questions and answers.*

*Concerning the **reporting templates**, WGTR participants will have the opportunity to discuss the draft proposed updates to the Initial and Annual reporting templates with a view to reaching a common understanding about these. To that end, the WGTR Co-Chairs will present the rationale of the proposed changes to the templates.*

3. Substantive reporting and transparency issues

*Under this agenda item, the WGTR participants will have the opportunity to exchange views concerning the **public availability of annual and initial reports** in order to better understand the preference of States Parties that choose to make their reports available to States Parties only.*

*Subsequently, the WGTR participants will have the opportunity to exchange views concerning the **aggregation of data in annual reports**.*

4. Organizational means for information exchange

*Under this agenda item, WGTR participants will have the general opportunity to propose and discuss **structured mechanisms, processes or formats facilitating the information exchanges** that are required or encouraged by the Treaty, both on the policy level, as well as on the operational level.*

*Concerning the **three-tier approach to sharing information on diversion**, the WGTR Co-Chairs will brief participants on its general implementation, and will invite the Chair of the Diversion Information Exchange Forum to provide an update on the general formal arrangements of the first meeting of the Forum.*

5. Reporting and transparency functionalities of the IT platform

*Under this agenda item, the users of the IT platform will have the opportunity to flag **any problems or inconveniences they have experienced with the platform**.*

*Concerning the **searchable online database**, WGTR participants will have the opportunity to exchange views on the proposed approach of the Co-Chairs to discuss the requirements for its development, including on the background paper prepared by the ATT Secretariat in this regard.*

AOB

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[i] In light of the reduced time allocated to the 28-29 April 2021 virtual meeting, the Co-Chairs propose to postpone the discussions on the following agenda items for the CSP8 cycle. Written contributions, proposal or comments on these topics may be submitted during the CSP7 cycle though:

− Agenda item 2. Recurring task 2: The WGTR will monitor the implementation of the project of voluntary practical bilateral and regional assistance with reporting (peer-to-peer);

− Agenda Item 2. Recurring task 3: The WGTR will give participants the opportunity to propose and discuss other means to support States Parties in addressing their reporting challenges;

− Agenda item 3. Recurring task 1: The WGTR will give participants the opportunity to raise and discuss substantive issues about the reporting obligations that could benefit from consideration by the WGTR;

− Agenda item 3. Recurring task 2: The WGTR will monitor and coordinate further work on the project to facilitate the identification of the conventional arms in Article 2 (1) of the Treaty in the "Harmonized System"(HS) of the World Customs Organization (WCO);

− Agenda item 5. Recurring task 2: The WGTR will give participants the opportunity to propose and discuss improvements to the IT platform to enhance transparency and facilitate the implementation of the reporting and information exchange obligations of the Treaty, including proposals to harness information from the initial and annual reports in a manner that allows follow-up on these reports.