



INTERPOL

ANTI-CORRUPTION OFFICE

## **INTERPOL statement to the 5<sup>th</sup> Conference of State Parties to the UNCAC.**

**25-29 November 2013**

**Panama City, Panama**

Mr Chairman of this Plenary, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes – the Custodians of the Convention, distinguished delegates, gracious host, ladies and gentlemen; we, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), would like to thank you for the opportunity to make this brief statement in this august house.

INTERPOL, the world's largest and oldest international law enforcement network, with 190 Member States, is primarily in the service of tracing and locating cross-border fugitives as well as cross-border illicit financial flows. In the service of our Member States, over the long years, the INTERPOL General Secretariat has developed certain core competencies in the area of secure communication for law enforcement and an impressive array of criminal databases.

The services offered by the General Secretariat are governed by rules and norms prescribed by the INTERPOL General Assembly. These core competencies, further complemented by specialized officers drawn from different countries working at the Secretariat along with our representative offices in each of our Member States, allow us to reinforce the efforts of the international community in furthering the cause of UNCAC, notably through international cooperation and technical assistance.

Mr Chairman, recognizing the importance of information exchange and dedicated contact points for successful asset recovery, INTERPOL in cooperation with the StAR Initiative, has launched the Global Focal Point Platform for Asset Recovery. Hosted on the secure server of INTERPOL and accessible through the INTERPOL I-24/7 communications network, this Platform offers various tools and services, notably the new SECOM-Asset Recovery tool for secure communications on asset recovery. Going to be added on this Platform is a case specific "Multi-jurisdictional Asset Recovery Database" available only to the case officers from across concerned jurisdiction.

As of today, 184 investigators and prosecutors, representing 100 countries are registered and using this INTERPOL Platform. We encourage the State Parties to this Convention to join this initiative through their appropriate law enforcement agencies. Through this Platform, we bring the registered Focal Points in Annual Conferences. INTERPOL and the StAR Initiative are thankful to the Jordan Anti-Corruption Commission, Jordan and the National Anti-Corruption Commission, Thailand for cohosting the Annual Conferences of 2012 and 2013 respectively.

Mr Chairman, in the 4th Conference of State Parties in Marrakesh, we made a statement of our intention to design and offer capacity building workshops targeting investigators and prosecutors, focusing on evidence. We are happy to announce here that, between the last conference and now, INTERPOL has offered six week-long workshops in different regions of the world: the first one for South and Southeast Asia countries in partnership with the Central Bureau of Investigation, New Delhi, India; the second for the Organization of Islamic Conference Countries (OIC) in association with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, Malaysia, UNODC and UNDP regional offices; the third one for South Asia countries once again in association with the Central Bureau of Investigation, New Delhi, India; the fourth one for South and East African countries in association with Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission, Kenya; the fifth one for the officers of Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption; and the sixth one for West and Central African countries in association with the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, Nigeria. In all, 266 investigators and prosecutors from 50 countries benefited out of these workshops.

Noting and encouraged by the strong support expressed by the State Parties through this conference, we would like to take this opportunity, Mr Chairman, to reaffirm the commitment of INTERPOL in extending all possible technical assistance to the Member States in their endeavour to successfully implement the provisions of UNCAC.

Thank you for your attention.