

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

Second session , Vienna, 10-21 October 2005

Beginning of Substantive Review Process

The second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime will review the implementation of the Convention, and the Protocols against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants. As of 27 September 2005, a significant number of States - 110 - had ratified the Convention.

The Conference of the Parties will focus on two main objectives:

- To improve the capacity of States Parties to combat transnational organized crime
- To promote and review the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols.

To achieve this, the Conference is expected to agree on mechanisms to:

- facilitate training and technical assistance;
- enable the exchange of information on patterns and trends in transnational organized crime and on ways to combat them;
- foster cooperation between intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;
- review periodically the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols;
- make recommendations to improve the Convention and its Protocols and their implementation.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SECOND SESSION (COP2)

Entry into force of the Firearms Protocol

One of the major highlights during the past year was the entry into force on 3 July 2005 of the Firearms Protocol to curb the spread of illicit arms. This Conference will review the implementation of the entire set of instruments.

Increase in number of States Parties

Since the last session in 2004, the number of States Parties to the Convention and its Protocols has grown significantly, a sign of the importance attached by countries to the question.

