

Alliance of NGOs on crime prevention and criminal justice
Ian Tennant, Chair

The Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the umbrella organization supporting civil society engagement with the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and its associated multilateral bodies, is pleased to take the floor and represent civil society in expressing appreciation for this Constructive Dialogue on Technical Assistance. One year after their first appearance, the Constructive Dialogues have grown in participation, importance and focus.

A full day will allow time for interactive and fruitful discussion. We expect that the panel format will help with better alignment with the topics being discussed by the Working Group on Technical Assistance.

Indeed – they have the potential to provide a much-needed substantive multistakeholder forum as the Dialogues continue in the coming months and years.

This is need because civil society cannot participate in the UNTOC Working Groups, and this is a weakness of the Conference of Parties and the review mechanism process.

Considering the importance of civil society inputs in supporting states in their review process and in identifying technical assistance needs and enhancing the implementation of UNTOC, our discussion today could help us begin to close the gap that has grown between between civil society and state discussions.

In fact – we believe that given the challenges encountered in the pace and progress of the review mechanism demonstrated in the briefing, civil society engagement can spur action and progress.

Finally, we are grateful to all stakeholders and donors for facilitating in-person attendance of so many participants. For the Constructive Dialogues, larger in-person participation is an important element for sharing knowledge and gaining a better understanding of the impact of the UNTOC through the review mechanism.

Thank you.