Commitment:

45 (Africa Action Plan), 12 (Chair’s Summary)

Working to secure the early establishment of a UN Convention on Corruption, and the early ratification of the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime; We support the Transitional Authority of Afghanistan.

Background:

The UN Convention Against Transnational Crime represents a major step forward in the fight against transnational organised crime. The Convention is a recognition by all U.N. members that transnational organised crime is a serious and growing problem that can only be solved through close international co-operation. The Convention was adopted by the UN General Assembly on November 15, 2000 and now has 145 signatories but only 28 parties.

The failing score that the Research Group gave to the G8 ratification of this convention last year was regarded as a big surprise given that the G8 states harbour strong criminal international organisations. More surprisingly, this year, after the G8 Africa Action Plan, the G8 Recommendations for Transnational Crime, and several ministerial meetings, advocated for the convention’s ratification, only two countries Canada and France, have effectively done so. In addition Canada and France, as well as Japan, have also ratified two protocols: the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air. Both protocols supplement the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

The establishment of a UN Convention on Corruption is still in progress. The fifth Ad Hoc Committee on the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption was held in March 2003. Although the first three Ad Hoc Committee meetings have produced early drafts of a Convention, no country has yet signed or ratified any accord.

Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Lack of Compliance</th>
<th>Work in Progress</th>
<th>Full Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Britain</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
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<td>+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
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<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+0.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Individual Country Compliance Breakdown:

1. Britain: 0

Britain signed the UN Convention Against Transnational Crime on December 14, 2000, but has yet to ratify it.

2. Canada: +1

Canada signed the UN Convention Against Transnational Crime on December 14, 2000, and ratified it, together with its two instrumental protocols on May 13, 2002. Canada has therefore met its commitment to Convention ratification. Canada acknowledges that no country is exempt from corruption, condemns it and ties it to international organised crime and terrorism.

3. France: +1

France signed the UN Convention Against Transnational Crime on December 12, 2000, and ratified it, together with its two instrumental protocols on October 29, 2002. It too has met its commitment to Convention ratification.

4. Germany: 0

Germany signed the UN Convention Against Transnational Crime on December 12, 2000, but has yet to ratify it. The German Federal Foreign Office suggests that “Critical to the success of the Convention and its Protocols will be their implementation,” and

confirms Germany’s belief that the integrated fight against Transnational Crime is necessary\(^{374}\).

Germany is already a partner country on a pilot project of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children\(^{375}\).

5. **Italy: 0**

Italy signed the UN Convention Against Transnational Crime on December 12, 2000, but has yet to ratify it\(^{376}\).

6. **Japan: 0**

Japan signed the UN Convention Against Transnational Crime on December 12, 2000, but has yet to ratify it\(^{377}\). However, Japan signed three supplemental protocols: the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (hereinafter referred to as the Protocol on Trafficking in Persons); the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air (hereinafter referred to as the Protocol on Smuggling of Migrants); and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components, and Ammunition (hereinafter referred to as the Protocol on Firearms) in December 2002\(^{378}\).

7. **Russia: 0**

Russia signed the UN Convention Against Transnational Crime on December 12, 2000, but has yet to ratify it\(^{379}\).

8. **United States: 0**

The United States signed the UN Convention Against Transnational Crime on December 13, 2000, but has yet to ratify it\(^{380}\).

Compiled by: University of Toronto G8 Research Group
May 2003

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\(^{375}\) www.undcp.org/odccp/trafficking_projects.html


\(^{377}\) Ibid.


\(^{380}\) Ibid.