

International drug control and crime prevention

In 2014, the United Nations, through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), continued to strengthen international cooperation in countering transnational organized crime, corruption, drugs and international terrorism. UNODC provided technical assistance, legal advice and research to the main United Nations policymaking bodies in drug control and crime prevention, and assisted Member States in developing domestic legislation and in implementing the international drug control and crime prevention conventions. The actions of the Office were guided by the strategic framework for the period 2014–2015, its strategy for the period 2012–2015, and by the integrated programme approach, through which UNODC implemented programmes at the national, regional and global levels. During the year, the Office improved the alignment between the strategic framework and the normative and technical cooperation services it provided, implemented 16 regional and country programmes, launched a new regional programme in support of the Caribbean Community Crime and Security Strategy and strengthened cooperation at the regional level in the Sahel. The Office also expanded its global programmes supporting the ratification and implementation of the international conventions on drugs and crime and promoting UN standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. It supported preparations for the high-level review conducted by CND (see below), strengthened its cooperation and coordination with other UN agencies, promoted the coherence of UN initiatives on the rule of law and amplified the impact of its work through cooperation with international organizations.

CND—the main UN policymaking body dealing with drug control—held its fifty-seventh session in March, during which it recommended to the Economic and Social Council one draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly, and two decisions for adoption by the Council. It adopted one decision and 11 resolutions on topics such as alternative development; drug abuse prevention through sport; prevention based on scientific evidence; supporting recovery from drug use disorders; the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016; education and training on drug use disorders; health services during economic downturns; illicit activities related to opium poppy

seeds; identification of new psychoactive substances; preventing the diversion of ketamine; and measures to support the Greater Mekong subregion in countering drug trafficking and abuse. The Commission also conducted a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.

In its report for 2014, INCB discussed the implementation of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing the world drug problem and facilitating the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, to be accomplished through compliance with the three international drug control conventions. It stressed the importance of drug demand and supply reduction strategies and noted that the illicit cultivation of drug crops was intertwined with socioeconomic factors and thus its reduction and elimination should be addressed in the broader context of sustainable development.

CCPCJ—the principal UN policymaking body in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice—held its twenty-third session in May, during which it recommended to the Economic and Social Council six draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly, and three draft resolutions and two decisions for adoption by the Council. It held a thematic discussion on international cooperation in criminal matters and adopted one decision and three resolutions on topics that included trafficking in forest products; trafficking in human organs; and strengthening the goAML (Anti-Money-Laundering) system.

In December, the General Assembly reaffirmed that countering the world drug problem was a common and shared responsibility to be addressed in a multilateral setting. The Assembly noted the importance of an integrated and balanced approach in drug policies and called upon Member States to engage in cooperation and practical action to achieve more effective results regarding the abuse and production of and trafficking in illicit drugs. The Assembly also encouraged Member States to promote and strengthen international cooperation to develop the capacities of criminal justice systems and requested UNODC to continue to provide technical assistance at the national, regional and international levels for that purpose. The Assembly adopted the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences and urged Member States

to apply them to the maximum extent possible, in view of strengthening international cooperation. The Assembly also adopted the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and requested UNODC to ensure their broad dissemination.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) addressed the interrelated issues of transnational organized crime, corruption, drugs and international terrorism, and offered global solutions for those problems within the multilateral framework of the United Nations. Guided by its governing bodies—the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)—the Office continued its work with Member States and civil society on pursuing a balanced and integrated approach to controlling drugs and combating crime as part of the UN system-wide effort to promote justice, human rights, development, health, peace and security. CND held its fifty-seventh session (13 December 2013; 13–21 March and 3–5 December 2014) [E/2014/28 & Add.1] and CCPCJ its twenty-third session (13 December 2013; 12–16 May and 4–5 December 2014) [E/2014/30 & Add.1], all in Vienna.

In a report to the two Commissions [E/CN.7/2015/2-E/CN.15/2015/2], the UNODC Executive Director described the Office's 2014 activities, which focused on countering corruption, terrorism and transnational organized crime and illicit trafficking; crime prevention and criminal justice; drug use prevention; treatment and reintegration; alternative development; and research, trend analysis and scientific and forensic support. At the intergovernmental level, the Office supported preparations for the high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, conducted by CND at its fifty-seventh session (see p. 000). It provided expertise and technical support to the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, to be held in 2016. UNODC also supported the organization of four regional meetings in preparation for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Qatar in 2015. The Office expanded the number and volume of integrated regional and country programmes, providing the operational frameworks and cooperation platforms to support Member States in their drug and

crime control priorities and to contribute to regional strategies and action plans. During the year, it was implementing 16 programmes, initiated evaluations for the regional programmes in East and West Africa and launched the new regional programme in support of the Caribbean Community and Security Strategy. In the Sahel, the comprehensive UNODC interregional response was rolled out. The Office supported the ratification and implementation of the international drug control conventions, the United Nations Convention against Corruption [YUN 2003, p. 1127] and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime [YUN 2000, p. 1048] and the Protocols thereto, while strengthening its cooperation and coordination with other UN agencies.

With a view to countering transnational organized crime and illicit drug trafficking, UNODC, through the Paris Pact initiative, continued to support efforts to counter the threat of illicit Afghan opiates and foster joint action against drug-related financial flows and money-laundering, expanded maritime cooperation and enhanced regional cooperation in criminal matters. Initiatives in drug supply reduction and countering drug trafficking focused on building operational links between various regional and international law enforcement organizations. The UNODC Airport Communication Project (AIRCOP) supported interregional cooperation against drug trafficking through the development of intelligence- and information-sharing platforms, with a focus on priority international airports in West Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. The Container Control Programme, implemented jointly by UNODC and the World Customs Organization to assist States in the development of sustainable law enforcement structures in sea and dry ports, expanded with operational units in 20 countries. The Office continued providing technical support to States within the 1993 Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control of the Greater Mekong subregion and through the UNODC regional programme for South-East Asia. Through its global programmes on trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, UNODC delivered over 30 technical assistance activities, reaching over 25 countries and 440 practitioners. Through its Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, UNODC cooperated with regional networks in building national systems to counter money-laundering in Asia and the Pacific, Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, and East and Southern Africa. In January, UNODC reconvened the intergovernmental expert group on protection against trafficking in cultural property, which led to the finalization of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences, adopted by assembly resolution 69/196 (see p. 000).

In May, UNODC launched the Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, which addressed the illicit supply of and demand for wild fauna and flora at the global level. As part of its Maritime Crime Programme, UNODC assisted Kenya, Mauritius and Seychelles in their prosecution of suspected pirates.

As to countering corruption, the Office continued to provide technical assistance to the country review process of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption, which entered the last year of its first cycle, with 171 States parties engaged in the process. The joint UNODC–World Bank Stolen Asset Recovery (STAR) Initiative provided technical assistance on asset recovery to approximately 30 countries. In terrorism prevention, UNODC promoted the ratification and/or implementation of the 19 international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism. It provided legal assistance to Member States for the harmonization of national counter-terrorism legislation, and it strengthened its cooperation with entities participating in the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force.

In crime prevention and criminal justice, UNODC assisted and advised an increasing number of countries on strengthening the rule of law through crime prevention and the promotion of fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems. The Office convened intergovernmental expert group meetings on the elimination of violence against children and on the gender-related killing of women and girls, as well as the third meeting of the Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Vienna, 25–28 March). The United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice were subsequently adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 69/194 (see p. 000).

With respect to prevention, treatment and reintegration, and alternative development, UNODC supported drug prevention and drug dependence treatment in more than 50 countries and continued its collaboration with WHO in 45 countries on strengthening services for the treatment, care and recovery of people suffering from drug dependence as well as children exposed to drugs at a very young age. To support reaching the target of reducing HIV transmission among people who injected drugs by 50 per cent by 2015, as established by the General Assembly Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS [YUN 2011, p. 1135], UNODC supported a rapid scaling-up of the delivery of harm reduction services, including advocacy, technical assistance and capacity-building in 24 high-priority countries. It continued implementation of alternative development programmes in six key countries affected by illicit crop cultiva-

tion: Afghanistan, Bolivia, Colombia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Peru.

The Office continued to provide technical support to Member States for the development of crime statistics and to collect and analyse data and trends with respect to illicit trafficking of opiates, especially from Afghanistan. It also assisted countries by providing training to improve the collection, analysis and reporting of drug data.

The financial situation of UNODC remained vulnerable, and low levels of non-earmarked or soft marked funding represented a challenge to the implementation of its mandates and programmes. The consolidated budget of UNODC for the biennium 2014–2015, as revised, totalled \$760.1 million, of which 11.7 per cent came from regular budget funds and 83.3 per cent from extrabudgetary resources.

The *World Drug Report 2014* [Sales No. E.14.XI.7] highlighted trends and emerging issues regarding the global drug situation and presented an analysis of the status of precursor control. The Office published the latest *Global Study on Homicide* [Sales No. 14.IV.1] during the year, based on data for 219 countries and territories worldwide. The *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2014* [Sales No. 14.V.10] provided global data and highlighted patterns and flows. The *Illicit Drug Trade through South-Eastern Europe* provided a picture of the drugs trafficking routes and trends in the region and beyond.

The Executive Director concluded his report with recommendations to the Commissions.

Administrative and budgetary matters

Administration

UNODC strategy. In a January note [E/CN.7/2014/15-E/CN.15/2014/15] on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016–2017, the Secretary-General invited CND and CCPCJ to review and provide comments on the proposed biennial programme plan for programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice [A/69/6 (Prog. 13)].

Intergovernmental working group. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2013/246 [YUN 2013, p. 1197], CND resolutions 52/13 [YUN 2009, p. 1252], 54/10 [YUN 2011, p. 1173], 54/17 [ibid.] and 56/11 [YUN 2013, p. 000], and CCPCJ resolutions 18/3 [YUN 2009, p. 1082], 20/1 [YUN 2011, p. 1173], 20/9 [ibid.] and 22/2 [YUN 2013, p. 1197], the Secretariat submitted a January note [E/CN.7/2014/8-E/CN.15/2014/8] on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC, which covered the working group's activities between 31 October 2013 and 13 January 2014. During the reporting period, the working group discussed implementation of the UNODC consolidated budgets for 2012–2013 and

2014–2015; the UNODC mandate with respect to cybercrime; action taken to strengthen programme-level reporting; the introduction of a sustainable funding model based on full cost recovery; an update on the regional programme for West Africa for 2010–2014; and a new regional programme for South-East Asia for 2014–2017.

An October addendum to the note [E/CN.7/2014/8/Add.1-E/CN.15/2014/8/Add.1] covered the working group's activities between 12 February and 1 October. It considered progress by UNODC in the implementation of its thematic programme on crime prevention and criminal justice reform for 2012–2015, full cost recovery implementation and the use of general purpose and programme support cost funds in the consolidated budget for 2014–2015.

Budget

In November [E/CN.7/2014/18-E/CN.15/2014/21], the UNODC Executive Director identified adjustments to the consolidated budget for the biennium 2014–2015 for UNODC and provided information on the implementation of the funding model of the Office, as requested by CND resolution 56/17 [YUN 2013, p. 1197] and CCPCJ resolution 22/9 [ibid.].

The total general-purpose expenditure for the drug and crime programme funds was projected to decrease by \$5.3 million (25.3 per cent), from \$21.2 million in 2012–2013 to \$15.9 million in 2014–2015; and requirements against the programme support cost resources were anticipated to increase by \$8.7 million (23 per cent), from \$38 million in 2012–2013 to \$46.7 million in 2014–2015. The total special-purpose expenditure of the drug and crime programme funds was projected to increase by \$111.2 million (23.4 per cent), from \$474.5 million in 2012–2013 to \$585.7 million in 2014–2015. The total regular budget resources reflected an increase of \$3.3 million, from \$85 million in 2012–2013 to \$88.3 million in 2014–2015.

For the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, Member States were requested to endorse revised estimates for special-purpose funds totalling \$323,384,700, reflecting an increase of \$18,816,800 vis-à-vis the amounts endorsed by CND resolution 56/17. The amounts approved for general-purpose funds (\$11,189,700) and endorsed for programme support cost funds (\$23,880,600) were maintained. For the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, Member States were requested to endorse revised estimates for special-purpose funds totalling \$285,159,200, reflecting an increase of \$4,016,600 vis-à-vis the amounts endorsed by CCPCJ resolution 22/9. The amounts approved for general-purpose funds (\$4,684,800) and endorsed for programme support cost funds (\$22,830,900) were maintained.

Commission action. On 5 December [E/2014/28/Add.1 (res. 57/12)], CND endorsed the revised estimates of \$323,384,700 for special-purpose funds. On the same date [E/2014/30/Add.1 (res. 23/4)], CCPCJ endorsed the revised estimates of \$285,159,200 for special-purpose funds. Both the Commissions noted the cost-saving measures taken by UNODC to maintain general-purpose expenditure at \$11,189,700 and programme support cost expenditure at \$23,880,600, encouraged the efforts made by UNODC to develop an annual report and an annual pledging process and invited Member States to provide extrabudgetary resources for those purposes. They also requested UNODC to encourage donors to provide general-purpose funding and invited Member States and other donors to support the general-purpose funds of the Office.

International drug control

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

At its fifty-seventh session (Vienna, 13 December 2013 and 13–21 March 2014) [E/2014/28], the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) recommended to the Economic and Social Council the approval of one draft resolution on the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, for adoption by the General Assembly. It also recommended two draft decisions for the Economic and Social Council's adoption, and adopted 11 resolutions, one decision and the Joint Ministerial Statement of its high-level segment, all of which it brought to the attention of the Council (see below).

At its reconvened fifty-seventh session (Vienna, 3–5 December) [E/2014/28/Add.1], the Commission adopted one resolution on implementation of the budget for the biennium 2014–2015 for the Fund of the UN International Drug Control programme and brought it to the attention of the Council. It brought two draft decisions to the Council's attention and recommended one draft decision for adoption by the Council.

On 16 July, by **decision 2014/233**, the Economic and Social Council took note of the Commission's report on its reconvened fifty-sixth (2013) session. On the same date, by **decision 2014/234**, the Council took note of the Commission's report on its fifty-seventh session [E/2014/28], Commission decision 55/1 of 2012 on the organization of work for future CND sessions, and Commission resolution 57/5 regarding organizational matters relevant to preparations for the 2016 special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem (see below). It also approved the provisional agenda for the Commission's fifty-eighth (2015) session.

Commission documentation. The Commission considered a December 2013 report [E/CN.7/2014/6] by

the Secretariat with information on the costs and the number and frequency of documents prepared for the Commission, and efforts by the Secretariat to increase efficiencies in the manner in which it produced such documentation and the savings linked to those efficiencies. The report made recommendations, including exploring possibilities to improve and reduce the yearly reporting requirements through an examination of the Commission's mandates, with a view to identifying those which were outdated or duplicative.

International cooperation against the world drug problem

High-level review. The high-level segment of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held on 13 and 14 March [E/2014/28], consisted of a mid-term review of progress achieved and challenges in implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, as adopted during the high-level segment of the fifty-second (2009) session of the Commission [YUN 2009, p. 1237] and by General Assembly resolution 64/182 [ibid.]. The themes for the three round-table discussions were demand reduction; supply reduction; and international cooperation. On 14 March, the participants adopted the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.

In a May note [A/69/87-E/2014/80], the Secretary-General transmitted to the General Assembly, pursuant to Assembly resolution 68/197 [YUN 2013, p. 1198], the report of the Chair of the Commission on the outcome of the CND high-level review. Annexed to that report was the Joint Ministerial Statement.

By **decision 69/538** of 18 December, the General Assembly took note of the Secretary-General's note.

Special session on the world drug problem. On 21 March [E/2014/28 (res. 57/5)], the Commission on Narcotic Drugs urged States to ratify or accede to the provisions of the three main drug control conventions, and underlined the importance of the special session of the General Assembly to address the world drug problem to be convened in early 2016, as a milestone on the way to 2019, which had been set as the target date for the achievement of the goals of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem [YUN 2009, p. 1237]. Recognizing its leading role in the preparations for the special session, the Commission decided to take measures to ensure an adequate preparatory process by making use of its meetings, reporting entitlements and regular budget resources

in the most efficient manner. It requested UNODC to provide expertise and technical support, encouraged the participation of Member States and the provision of assistance to the least developed countries in the preparatory work, and invited Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for this purpose. It recommended that organs, entities and specialized agencies of the UN system, multilateral development banks, and other relevant international and regional organizations contribute to the Commission's preparations, and recognized the important role played by civil society, particularly non-governmental organizations. The Commission invited Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the preparatory process.

On 4 December [E/2014/28/Add.1 (dec. 57/2)], CND decided that, in order to ensure continuity with respect to its preparatory work for the special session of the General Assembly to address the world drug problem to be convened in early 2016, a Board tasked by the Commission would be elected based on the regional distribution of officers of the Bureau of its fifty-seventh session. The Board would participate in the meetings of the extended bureaux of the fifty-eighth (2015) and fifty-ninth (2016) sessions and assist the Commission and the Chairs of those respective sessions in fulfilling their mandate. It would be in charge of organizing all actions taken by the Commission in preparation for the special session and would address all organizational and substantive matters for that purpose.

On 5 December [ibid. (dec. 57/3)], the Commission approved the provisional agenda for the special session to be held during the fifty-eighth session of the Commission, in March 2015, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 16 July [meeting 45], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs [E/2014/28], adopted **resolution 2014/24** without vote [agenda item 17 (d)].

Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly

1. Welcomes Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 57/5 of 21 March 2014, and notes with satisfaction the support expressed at the high-level review by the Commission of the progress made by Member States in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem for the decision taken by the General Assembly

in its resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012 to convene a special session on the world drug problem early in 2016, in implementation of the recommendation contained in paragraph 40 of the Political Declaration;

2. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the special session on the world drug problem in 2016, as noted in Commission resolution 57/5, as a milestone on the way to 2019, which has been set as the target date in the Political Declaration for the review of implementation;

4. *Reaffirms* that, at its special session on the world drug problem in 2016, it will address substantive issues on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility and in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and in particular with respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States;

5. *Decides* that the special session shall be convened following the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, scheduled to be held in March 2016;

6. *Also decides* that the special session on the world drug problem in 2016 shall have an inclusive preparatory process that includes extensive substantive consultations, allowing organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to fully contribute to the process, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure and established practice;

7. *Further decides* that the Commission, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, shall lead this process by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, and in this regard invites the President of the General Assembly to support, guide and stay involved in the process;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by the Commission to take all measures necessary to use its existing meetings and reporting entitlements in the most efficient manner to ensure adequate preparation for the special session in 2016, and requests the Commission to continue to take all measures necessary to prepare for the special session, as early as possible;

9. *Encourages* the participation of all Member States and the provision of assistance to the least developed countries in the preparatory work undertaken by the Commission in order to work actively towards the attainment of the objectives and goals of the special session, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for this purpose;

10. *Recognizes* that the special session on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 constitutes an opportunity for a high-level and wide-ranging discussion among Member States leading up to the target date of 2019, within

the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, in order to further implement the commitments and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

11. *Also recognizes* the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in the preparations for and during the fifty-second and the fifty-seventh sessions of the Commission, including their high-level segments, and recognizes further the need for their active involvement in the preparations for the special session, as well as the need for their effective, substantive and active involvement during the special session, in accordance with the rules of procedure and practice developed for other special sessions of the General Assembly, and requests the Chair of the Commission to consider undertaking consultations and other appropriate actions in this regard with relevant stakeholders;

12. *Invites* organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks, other relevant international organizations, including the International Narcotics Control Board, and regional organizations to contribute fully to the preparations for the special session in 2016, in particular by submitting to the Commission, through the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, specific recommendations on the issues to be addressed at the special session;

13. *Requests* the Commission to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in preparation for the special session in 2016;

14. *Reaffirms* its decision taken in resolution 67/193 to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing regular budget resources;

15. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes set out in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 18 December [meeting 73], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee [A/69/490], adopted **resolution 69/200** without vote [agenda item 106].

Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

The General Assembly

1. *Welcomes* Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 57/5 of 21 March 2014, and notes with satisfaction the support expressed at the high-level review by the Commission of the progress made by Member States in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem for the decision taken by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012 to convene a special session on the world drug problem early in 2016, in implementation of the recommendation contained in paragraph 40 of the Political Declaration;

2. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of the Single Convention

on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the special session on the world drug problem in 2016, as noted in Commission resolution 57/5, as a milestone on the way to 2019, which has been set as the target date in the Political Declaration for the review of implementation;

4. *Reaffirms* that, at its special session on the world drug problem in 2016, it will address substantive issues on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility and in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and in particular with respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States;

5. *Decides* that the special session shall be convened following the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, scheduled to be held in March 2016;

6. *Also decides* that the special session on the world drug problem in 2016 shall have an inclusive preparatory process that includes extensive substantive consultations, allowing organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to fully contribute to the process, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure and established practice;

7. *Further decides* that the Commission, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, shall lead this process by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, and in this regard invites the President of the General Assembly to support, guide and stay involved in the process;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by the Commission to take all measures necessary to use its existing meetings and reporting entitlements in the most efficient manner to ensure adequate preparation for the special session in 2016, and requests the Commission to continue to take all measures necessary to prepare for the special session, as early as possible;

9. *Encourages* the participation of all Member States and the provision of assistance to the least developed countries in the preparatory work undertaken by the Commission in order to work actively towards the attainment of the objectives and goals of the special session, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for this purpose;

10. *Recognizes* that the special session on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 constitutes an opportunity for a high-level and wide-ranging discussion among Member States leading up to the target date of 2019, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, in order to further implement the commitments and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

11. *Also recognizes* the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in the preparations for and during the fifty-second and the

fifty-seventh sessions of the Commission, including their high-level segments, and recognizes further the need for their active involvement in the preparations for the special session, as well as the need for their effective, substantive and active involvement during the special session, in accordance with the rules of procedure and practice developed for other special sessions of the General Assembly, and requests the Chair of the Commission to consider undertaking consultations and other appropriate actions in this regard with relevant stakeholders;

12. *Invites* organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks, other relevant international organizations, including the International Narcotics Control Board, and regional organizations to contribute fully to the preparations for the special session in 2016, in particular by submitting to the Commission, through the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, specific recommendations on the issues to be addressed at the special session;

13. *Requests* the Commission to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in preparation for the special session in 2016;

14. *Reaffirms* its decision taken in resolution 67/193 to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing regular budget resources;

15. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes set out in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Report of Secretary-General. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/197 [YUN 2013, p. 1198], the Secretary-General submitted a June report [A/69/111] on international cooperation against the world drug problem, which reviewed the world drug situation and the implementation of the mandates relating to international drug control by Member States, UNODC, other entities of the UN system and relevant international organizations. It also provided information on the outcome of the high-level review of the progress made by Member States in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem [YUN 2009, p. 1237], conducted in March by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as well as recommendations for consideration by the Assembly in preparing for the special session on the world drug problem to be held in 2016. At the global level, UNODC implemented thematic programmes supporting the ratification and implementation of the international drug conventions. At the regional level, it promoted cross-border cooperation and regional programmes and initiatives among partner countries, and it initiated an approach connecting various interregional programmes. At the national level, the Office assisted Member States in improving their normative, institutional and operational capacity and provided assistance in drafting national legislation for the implementation of the three conventions. In the field of demand reduction, the Office

supported drug prevention and drug dependence treatment in 57 countries. It also reached people in 38 countries through its continued collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) on improving the coverage and quality of services for the treatment and care of people with drug use disorders. It strengthened its capacity to help countries scale up the delivery of harm reduction services in the context of HIV, and it identified 24 high-priority countries in the area of injecting drug use and HIV, in which the Office was concentrating efforts and resources for the period 2013–2015. On supply reduction, the Office addressed illicit drug crop cultivation through development-oriented drug control programmes in Afghanistan, Bolivia, Colombia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Peru. Through its thematic programme on transnational organized crime and illicit trafficking, including drug trafficking, UNODC delivered technical assistance to build the counter-narcotics capacity of national agencies in West Africa, South-East Asia, Central and South America, Central Asia, Afghanistan and Pakistan and supported efforts to increase the co-ordination and sharing of information on targeted transnational drug trafficking groups and on precursor control. It also continued to promote South-South cooperation and the exchange of experiences among Member States in alternative development and provided technical assistance for country-level alternative development programmes. As to data collection and research, the Office supported countries in improving the availability of data on drugs, particularly by assisting Governments in the monitoring of illicit crops and drug production. In 2013, technical support was provided to Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru for monitoring coca bush cultivation, to the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar for monitoring opium poppy cultivation, and to Afghanistan and Mexico for monitoring opium poppy and cannabis plant cultivation. Expert advice was provided on the setting-up of drug monitoring systems in East and West Africa and for the issuance of the first annual report on the drug situation in Afghanistan. Of particular importance in the *World Drug Report 2014* [Sales No. E.14.XI.7] were the estimates jointly produced by UNODC, WHO, the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the World Bank on the number of people who injected drugs and of people who injected drugs living with HIV. The *Report* also contained a discussion on the global chemical industry and potential vulnerabilities allowing for the diversion of chemicals that could be used in the manufacture of illicit drugs. In the framework of its global Synthetics Monitoring, Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme, the Office established the UNODC early warning advisory, a global Internet-based platform to monitor, analyse and report trends on new psychoactive substances. The Secretary-General concluded with recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 18 December [meeting 73], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/69/490], adopted **resolution 69/201** without vote [agenda item 106].

International cooperation against the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development,

Reaffirming also the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and the joint ministerial statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the provisions of the 2005 World Summit Outcome addressing the world drug problem, the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 68/197 of 18 December 2013 and those on regional and international cooperation to prevent the diversion and smuggling of precursors,

Recalling also the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of its resolution 2012/12 of 26 July 2012 on the strategy for the period 2012–2015 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, welcoming the measures taken by the Office to develop a thematic and regional programme approach to its activities, and noting the progress in the implementation of such an approach,

Noting the efforts of the Secretary-General to develop, within the United Nations system, an effective and comprehensive approach to transnational organized crime and the world drug problem, and reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in this regard,

Welcoming the efforts made by Member States to achieve the aims and comply with the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,

Emphasizing the importance both of the universality of the three above-mentioned international drug control conventions and of their implementation, noting that they are concerned with the health and welfare of humankind, and reaffirming the guiding principles enshrined therein and the system of control that they embody,

Recalling all resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session,

Gravely concerned that, despite continuing increased efforts by States, relevant organizations, civil society and

non-governmental organizations, the world drug problem continues to constitute a serious threat to public health and safety and the well-being of humanity, in particular children and young people and their families, and to the national security and sovereignty of States, and that it undermines socioeconomic and political stability and sustainable development,

Reaffirming that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that requires effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies,

Stressing the need to take all appropriate measures, including legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, to protect children and young people against the use or abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as defined in the relevant treaties, and to prevent the use of children and young people in the illicit production of and trafficking in such substances, and urging Governments to implement the resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs relating to this matter, including resolution 57/3 of 21 March 2014,

Recognizing the importance of preventing and addressing drug-related youth crime, considering its impact on the social and economic development of societies, and supporting the rehabilitation and treatment of young offenders and their reintegration into society,

Stressing the importance of the focus placed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session on the issues of the prevention of drug abuse, including through education and training on drug use disorders and sport, supporting the treatment, rehabilitation, reintegration and recovery of drug-dependent persons and other measures aimed at minimizing the public health and social consequences of drug abuse, in accordance with national legislation and the three international drug control conventions,

Stressing also the importance placed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session on enhancing international cooperation in the identification and reporting of new psychoactive substances and incidents involving such substances,

Noting with grave concern the global increased abuse of certain drugs and the proliferation of new substances, which are a possible threat to public health and are not controlled under the three international drug control conventions,

Noting with grave concern also the increasing sophistication of the transnational criminal groups engaged in the illicit manufacture and distribution of amphetamine-type stimulants worldwide, as well as the proliferation and diversion of chemical precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recognizing the critical importance of forensic and scientific laboratory and treatment centre data and qualitative information in understanding the problem of illicit synthetic drugs and the range of products available on the illicit market,

Noting the need to promote adequate availability of internationally controlled narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, in accordance with national legislation, while preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to realize the aims of the three international drug control conventions,

Expressing its appreciation for the results already achieved by the initiatives at the bilateral, regional and international levels, and recognizing that further positive results can be achieved with sustained and collective efforts through international cooperation in reducing the demand and supply of illicit drugs,

Recognizing the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its subsidiary bodies, together with the International Narcotics Control Board, as the United Nations organs with prime responsibility for drug control matters, as well as the role of the World Health Organization, within their respective mandates, and recognizing also the need to promote and facilitate the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,

Reaffirming that countering the world drug problem in all its aspects requires a political commitment and collective efforts through international cooperation to significantly and measurably reduce illicit supply and demand, as an integral component of a balanced and comprehensive drug control strategy, in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem, including the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, also adopted at that session, and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development,

Reaffirming equally that reducing drug abuse requires efforts to reduce demand, which must be demonstrated by sustained widespread demand reduction initiatives that are age- and gender-sensitive and integrate a comprehensive public health approach spanning the spectrum of prevention, education, early detection and intervention, treatment, care and related support services, recovery support, rehabilitation and social reintegration of drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in accordance with the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, and with the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the high-level segment of its fifty-second session, and other relevant Assembly resolutions,

Conscious of the need to continue to raise public awareness of the risks and threats posed to all societies by the world drug problem in all its aspects,

Noting the importance of addressing the world drug problem in a coordinated manner while taking into consideration balanced, comprehensive and integrated drug policies that may, where appropriate, include measures based on scientific evidence and that contribute, as appropriate, in mutual complementarity with other measures, to strengthening national, regional and global strategies in an effort to seek effective solutions and further achievements in response to current challenges, in compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in the full and effective implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,

Welcoming the efforts of countries that have worked for decades to counter the world drug problem and have acquired knowledge, experience and institutional capacities that enable them to afford cooperation to other countries in application of the principle of common and shared responsibility,

Inviting Member States to consider, when developing crime prevention programmes, such issues as social inclusion, the strengthening of the social fabric, access to justice, drug-related violence, the social reintegration of offenders and access to health and education services, as well as the needs of victims of crime, and to promote a culture of lawfulness and concern for the well-being of individuals, families and communities, with a particular emphasis on children and youth,

Encouraging Member States to endeavour to ensure that measures taken at the national and local levels in response to economic and financial constraints do not have a disproportionate impact on the implementation of balanced drug demand and supply reduction policies,

Recalling the adoption, by its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009, of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, the decision, contained in the Political Declaration, on the high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action held by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session, the recommendation that the Economic and Social Council devote a high-level segment to a theme related to the world drug problem and the recommendation that the General Assembly hold a special session to address the world drug problem,

Recalling also its resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, in which it decided to convene, early in 2016, a special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, following the high-level review of the progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, which was conducted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session, in March 2014,

Recalling further its decision in the aforementioned resolution that the special session of the General Assembly would review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments,

Noting its decision to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing resources,

1. *Reiterates its call upon* States to take, in a timely manner, the measures necessary to implement the actions and attain the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, and to address the general challenges and priorities for action identified in the joint ministerial statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;

2. *Reaffirms* that countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, that it requires an integrated and balanced approach and that it must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other provisions of international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action on human rights and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, for the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to engage in effective cooperation and practical action aimed at addressing the world drug problem on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility;

4. *Encourages* Member States to give adequate consideration to the negative effects of the world drug problem and its consequences on development and on society in general;

5. *Invites* Member States to implement comprehensive drug abuse prevention measures from a perspective that considers the individual as well as the community and society as a whole, including through public health education on the dangers of drug abuse, violence prevention, rehabilitation and aftercare to reintegrate former drug users into society, as well as anticipate, detect and analyse various risks to communities associated with drug-related violence and crime;

6. *Undertakes* to promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including through intelligence-sharing and cross-border cooperation, aimed at countering the world drug problem more effectively, in particular by encouraging and supporting such cooperation by those States most directly affected by illicit crop cultivation and the illicit production, manufacture, transit, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

7. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to promoting, developing, reviewing or strengthening effective, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programmes, based on scientific evidence and covering a range of measures, including primary prevention, education, early detection and intervention, treatment, care and related support services, recovery support, rehabilitation and social reintegration efforts, as well as measures aimed at minimizing the public health and social consequences of drug abuse and at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, taking into account the specific needs of women and the particular challenges posed by high-risk drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation, and commits Member States to investing increased resources in ensuring access to those interventions on a non-discriminatory basis, including in detention facilities, bearing in mind that those interventions should also consider vulnerabilities that undermine human development, such as poverty and social marginalization;

8. *Encourages* Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive policies and programmes that, by fostering social development, are aimed at the prevention of crime and violence and that ad-

dress the multiple factors that contribute to crime and victimization, in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including civil society, and based on scientific evidence and taking into account good practices;

9. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to review and, if necessary, strengthen coordinated measures, enhance capacity-building to combat money-laundering arising from drug trafficking and improve judicial cooperation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels, to dismantle organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking, in order to provide for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of the perpetrators of such crimes;

10. *Notes* the importance of an integrated approach in drug policies, including by strengthening the partnerships between public health, justice and law enforcement sectors and facilitating inter-agency cooperation and communication, where appropriate;

11. *Encourages* the promotion, where appropriate, in the framework of international cooperation, of the use of law enforcement techniques, consistent with national legislation and international law, including applicable human rights obligations, in order to ensure that drug traffickers are brought to justice and that major criminal organizations are disrupted and dismantled;

12. *Notes with great concern* the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, reaffirms the commitment of all Member States to tackling those problems in the context of comprehensive, complementary and multisectoral drug demand reduction strategies, in particular such strategies targeting children, young people and their families, also notes with great concern the alarming rise in the incidence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among injecting drug users, also reaffirms the commitment of all Member States to working towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes and treatment, care and related support services, in full compliance with the international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation, taking into account all relevant General Assembly resolutions and, when applicable, the revised technical guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug users, issued by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, and requests the Office to carry out its mandate in this area in close cooperation with relevant organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, such as the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

13. *Urges* Member States, where appropriate, to develop national responses to address the issue of drug-affected driving by, inter alia, exchanging information and best practices on effective responses, including through engagement with the international scientific and legal communities;

14. *Notes with concern* that the availability of internationally controlled drugs for medical and scientific purposes, particularly for the relief of pain and for palliative care, remains low to non-existent in many countries of the world, and highlights the need for Member States, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the International Narcotics Control Board, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health

Organization, as appropriate, to address that situation by promoting measures to ensure their availability and accessibility for medical and scientific purposes, in accordance with national legislation, while simultaneously preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to realize the aims of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments;

15. *Urges* all Member States to enact comprehensive measures aimed at stemming the abuse of prescription drugs, in particular through the establishment of awareness-raising initiatives targeting the general public and health-care providers;

16. *Acknowledges* the continuing efforts made and the progress achieved in countering the world drug problem, notes with great concern the continuing illicit production of and trafficking in opiates, the continuing illicit manufacture of and trafficking in cocaine, the increasing illicit production of and trafficking in cannabis, the ongoing global spread of the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants and the increasing diversion of precursors, as well as the related distribution and use of illicit drugs, and stresses the need to strengthen and intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels to tackle those global challenges in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of enhanced and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance;

17. *Expresses its concern* that, despite all the efforts of Member States and the international community, and according to the *World Drug Report 2014* of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, overall the global situation with regard to the prevalence of illicit drug use and problem drug use is generally stable, with the total global number of drug users increasingly commensurate with the growth of the world population;

18. *Stresses* that it is absolutely imperative for Member States to strengthen international efforts in order to achieve more effective results in countering the world drug problem;

19. *Recognizes* that it is necessary for Member States, under the three international drug control conventions and the fundamental principles of their domestic legal systems and national legislation, to consider, where appropriate:

(a) Regularly reviewing and assessing their drug control policies, ensuring that they are effective, comprehensive, balanced and aimed at promoting the health and well-being of individuals, families, communities and society as a whole;

(b) Providing, as appropriate, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programmes, based on scientific evidence and covering a range of measures, including primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and measures aimed at minimizing the negative public health and social impacts of drug abuse, aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole;

20. *Invites* Member States to take appropriate measures so as to strengthen international cooperation and the exchange of information regarding the identification of new routes and *modi operandi* of organized criminal groups dedicated to the diversion or smuggling of substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and

psychotropic substances, in particular with respect to their trafficking via the Internet, and to continue to notify the International Narcotics Control Board of such information;

21. *Continues to encourage* Member States to promote, in accordance with Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 57/9 of 21 March 2014, the sharing of information on the potential abuse of and trafficking in new psychoactive substances, including synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonists, as well as the sharing of information with regard to patterns of use, risks to public health, forensic data and best practices with respect to interventions and new and existing control measures;

22. *Recognizes* the progress made in the development of a consolidated international response to the increasing availability of new psychoactive substances that may pose risks to public health and safety, including the development of a global reference point, the early warning advisory and cooperation with Member States and relevant regional organizations in the identification and reporting of such substances, in order to increase data collection, improve our collective understanding and find effective policy responses, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts to enhance the capacity of Member States in this regard, and calls upon Member States to further improve the application of the international scheduling process and to provide to the Secretary-General, through the Office, and to the World Health Organization timely information, identifying a national government focal point to coordinate the provision of information on substances for effective review by the World Health Organization Expert Committee on Drug Dependence;

23. *Encourages* Member States to adopt measures to strengthen public awareness of the risks and threats to and negative impacts on society posed by the abuse and production of and trafficking in illicit drugs;

24. *Recognizes:*

(a) That sustainable crop control strategies targeting the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances require international cooperation based on the principle of shared responsibility and an integrated and balanced approach, taking into account the rule of law and, where appropriate, security concerns, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(b) That such crop control strategies include, inter alia, alternative development and, where appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, eradication and law enforcement measures;

(c) That alternative development is an important, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of drug crops and an effective measure for countering the world drug problem and other drug-related crime challenges, as well as a choice in favour of societies free of drug abuse, that it is one of the key components of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production and that it is an integral part of efforts by Governments to achieve sustainable development within their societies;

(d) That such crop control strategies should be in full conformity with article 14 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and appropriately coordi-

nated and phased in accordance with national policies in order to achieve the sustainable eradication of illicit crops and the creation of alternative legal livelihood opportunities and facilitate long-term development, noting furthermore the need for Member States to undertake to increase long-term investment in such strategies, coordinated with other development measures, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development and poverty eradication in affected rural areas, taking due account of the traditional licit uses of crops where there is historical evidence of such use and giving due consideration to the protection of the environment;

(e) That developing countries with extensive expertise in alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, play a significant role in promoting best practices and lessons learned from alternative development programmes, and invites them to continue to share those best practices with States affected by illicit crop cultivation, with a view to using them in accordance with the national specificities of each State;

25. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations, entities and other relevant stakeholders to take due account of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development when designing and implementing alternative development programmes, and welcomes the adoption by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of its resolution 57/11 of 21 March 2014;

26. *Requests* the international community, in particular the countries of destination, to continue to provide, bilaterally, multilaterally or through the competent international and regional organizations, in accordance with article 10 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, and on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility, urgent and sufficient technical assistance and support to the most affected transit States, in full cooperation with national authorities, in order to promote the capacities of such States to counter the flow of illicit drugs;

27. *Reiterates* the urgent need for Member States to strengthen international and regional cooperation in order to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, money-laundering, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and, in some cases, terrorism and the financing of terrorism, and to the significant challenges faced by law enforcement and judicial authorities in responding to the ever-changing means used by transnational criminal organizations, including the corruption of State officials, to avoid detection and prosecution;

28. *Expresses deep concern* at the growing violence resulting from activities of criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking, recognizes the increasing links between drug trafficking, including gang-related association, and the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms in some regions of the world and the need to prevent the spread of that problem to other regions, and urges Member States to take adequate measures, consistent with their international treaty obligations and other relevant international standards, to fully cooperate in preventing the acquisition and use of firearms and ammunition by those criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking and in combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in such firearms and ammunition;

29. *Calls upon* Member States to also consider, when developing comprehensive policies to tackle the world drug problem, measures, programmes and actions that address the needs of those affected by drug-related violence and crime;

30. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its field offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and encourages the Office to maintain an effective level of support for national and regional efforts in countering the world drug problem;

31. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to collaborate with relevant intergovernmental, international and regional organizations involved in addressing the world drug problem, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and scientific standards and to maximize the benefits from their unique comparative advantage, and to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States so as to enhance capacity in countering the world drug problem, including enhancing the analytical work of laboratories, by carrying out training programmes to develop indicators and instruments for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable and comparable data on all relevant aspects of the world drug problem and, where appropriate, by supporting requesting States to enhance or develop new national indicators and instruments;

32. *Welcomes* the further collaboration, within their mandates, between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization, which provides leadership and guidance, to further strengthen public health as part of a comprehensive and balanced approach to drug demand reduction based on scientific evidence;

33. *Invites* Member States to invest, where necessary and taking into account specific needs and available resources, in capacity-building and quality-enhancing activities for the collection and reporting of information, to participate in joint cooperation efforts organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by other national, regional or international organizations and bodies, aimed at the exchange of technical knowledge of experts in the area of data collection, analysis and evaluation and of practical experience in the area of drug data, and to regularly report data and information relating to all aspects of the world drug problem to the Office through the annual report questionnaires, and invites the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body of the United Nations system on drug-related matters, to strengthen the capacity of the Office to collect, analyse, use and disseminate accurate, reliable, objective and comparable data and to reflect such information in the *World Drug Report*;

34. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts in supporting States to establish, upon request, operational frameworks essential for communication within and across national borders and in facilitating the exchange of information on and analysis of drug trafficking trends, with a view to increasing knowledge about the world drug problem at the national, regional and international levels, recognizes the importance of integrating laboratories and providing scientific support to drug control frameworks and of treating quality analytical data as a primary source of information worldwide, and urges coordination with other international entities, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

35. *Requests* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its operational and technical cooperation activities, including with a view to assisting Member States with the full implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, as well as with the full implementation of relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

36. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

37. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to address the above-mentioned issues within the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office in order for the Office to fulfil its mandate effectively, efficiently and with the appropriate resources;

38. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the International Narcotics Control Board to strengthen their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

39. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

40. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in close collaboration with the International Narcotics Control Board, as may be appropriate, adequate support and technical assistance to Governments in all regions so as to enable them to implement and fully meet their obligations under conventions and give adequate follow-up to subsequent resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, including for the strengthening of regulatory authorities and controls, provision of information and fulfilment of reporting requirements, and urges donors to contribute to the Office for those purposes;

41. *Takes note* of the resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh Session, the *World Drug Report 2014* and the most recent report of

the International Narcotics Control Board, and calls upon Member States to strengthen international and regional cooperation and coordination to counter the threat to the international community caused by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, especially those in the opium group, as well as other aspects of the world drug problem, and to continue to take concerted measures within the framework of the Paris Pact and other relevant regional and international initiatives and mechanisms, such as the Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan, also known as the “Heart of Asia” initiative, in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation and information exchange with a view to countering drug trafficking with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other international and regional organizations;

42. *Urges* Member States to continue to actively cooperate with the International Narcotics Control Board in the exercise of its mandate, and emphasizes the need to ensure that an appropriate level of resources is made available to the Board to enable it to engage with Governments to effectively monitor compliance by States parties with the three international drug control conventions;

43. *Emphasizes* the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in addressing the world drug problem, notes with appreciation their important contribution to the review process, and notes that representatives of affected populations and civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the formulation and implementation of drug demand and supply reduction policy;

44. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that civil society plays a participatory role, where appropriate, through consultation in the development and implementation of drug control programmes and policies, in particular with regard to aspects of demand reduction;

45. *Encourages* the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, and in this regard welcomes the discussions conducted in Vienna from 2 to 5 July 2013, Addis Ababa from 15 to 19 September 2014, Asunción from 6 to 10 October 2014, and Bangkok from 21 to 24 October 2014;

46. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation in addressing the world drug problem and to seek effectiveness and comprehensiveness in the strategies and policies undertaken by regional and subregional organizations and transregional initiatives;

47. *Invites* Member States, in consultation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, donors and other relevant international organizations, to continue to assist African States in addressing health problems and raising awareness of the dangers associated with the abuse of all drugs, and in this regard encourages the Office and the African Union Commission to continue to work together to enhance the complementarities of their activities;

48. *Reiterates its call upon* the relevant United Nations agencies and entities and other international organizations, and invites international financial institutions, including regional development banks, to mainstream efforts to

counter the world drug problem into their programmes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain its leading role by providing relevant information and technical assistance;

49. *Reaffirms* its decision, as recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, that the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016 shall have an inclusive preparatory process that includes extensive substantive consultations, allowing organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to fully contribute to the process in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure and established practice;

50. *Recognizes* the constructive role that parliamentarians can play in addressing the world drug problem, and encourages their participation, as appropriate, in the preparatory process for the special session;

51. *Notes* the ongoing discussions in some regions on how to address the world drug problem, in the light of the current situation and policies, and emphasizes the importance of a broad, transparent, inclusive and scientific evidence-based discussion among Member States, with input from other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, in multilateral settings, on the most effective ways to counter the world drug problem consistent with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, in order to further implement the commitments and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem;

52. *Reaffirms its support* for the preparations for the special session, which will review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments by, inter alia, addressing measures to reach an effective balance between supply and demand reduction measures and addressing all the consequences of the world drug problem, including in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice and security fields;

53. *Invites* Member States to share their drug policy experiences as a contribution to the special session;

54. *Reaffirms* its resolution 69/200 of 18 December 2014, in which it is stated that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, shall lead that process by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, and in this regard reiterates its invitation to the President of the General Assembly to support, guide and stay involved in the process;

55. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters and having the leading role in the preparation of the special session of the Assembly, to hold, within existing resources, a high-level thematic debate in 2015 in support of the process towards the 2016 special session of the Assembly on the world drug

problem with Member States and other relevant stakeholders and to prepare a Chair's summary of the discussions for transmission to the Commission;

56. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General, and requests that he submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

World situation on drug abuse. The Commission considered a report [E/CN.7/2014/3] by the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug abuse, which reviewed the extent of and trends in illicit drug use worldwide and according to region, and the consequences of drug use, including HIV and hepatitis among people who injected drugs, treatment demand and drug-related deaths. In 2011, between 3.6 and 6.9 per cent of people aged 15 to 64 (between 167 million and 315 million people), were estimated to have illicitly used drugs at least once in the preceding year. Since 2009, there had been a slight overall increase in the prevalence and number of people illicitly using drugs. UNODC provided new estimates for 2011 of the numbers of people who injected drugs (14 million) and who injected drugs while living with HIV (1.6 million). Globally, there was a continued shift in developed countries away from the use of heroin and cocaine towards the use of synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances that were not under international control, and the misuse of prescription drugs. In Europe, the use of cannabis, cocaine and heroin decreased or stabilized, but the use of amphetamine-type stimulants and new psychoactive substances increased. In the United States and Mexico, cannabis use increased, and its use also was on the rise in Africa, Latin America and parts of Asia. While heroin use stabilized, the non-medical use of prescription opioids continued to increase in most regions. The use of amphetamine-type stimulants increased, most noticeably in Asia, Africa and parts of Latin America. Globally, cannabis remained the most common drug and its use was increasingly mentioned in relation to treatment demand and associated psychiatric disorders. Opioids remained the drugs causing the most harm in terms of treatment demand, injecting drug use and HIV infections, and drug-related deaths. About 210,000 deaths were estimated as attributable to illicit drug use, and most of them were fatal overdoses among opioid users. In 2011, nearly one in six problem drug users received treatment for drug use disorders and dependence. However, disparities remained in the delivery of evidence-based drug dependence treatment and care in many regions.

The Secretariat noted the low rate of response from Member States to the annual report questionnaire, which formed the basis of the information system by which global trends in drug use were reported each year. The lack of sustainable drug information systems and drug observatories from many parts of the world continued to hinder the monitoring of current and

emerging drug trends in most regions, as well as the implementation and evaluation of evidence-based responses to counter the illicit demand for drugs. It was important for Member States to take stock of the situation on the availability and quality of data on drug use indicators; to consider strategies to improve that situation, taking into account the gaps in capacities for collection, analysis and reporting of quality data, especially in Africa and Asia; and to provide the necessary resources to address gaps in setting up drug monitoring systems.

Alternative development. On 21 March [E/2014/28 (res. 57/1)], CND adopted a resolution on promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development [YUN 2013, p. 1205] and a proposal to organize an international seminar/workshop on the implementation of the Guiding Principles. Acknowledging that alternative development was an important and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of drug crops and an effective measure to counter the world drug problem and other drug-related crimes, and recognizing the role played by countries with extensive expertise in alternative development, the Commission called upon Member States to take the Guiding Principles into consideration while designing, implementing and evaluating alternative development programmes and projects. It called upon Member States and other donors to consider long-term support to alternative development programmes and projects, targeting the illicit cultivation of crops, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development as well as poverty eradication, including through enhanced development-oriented approaches that implemented measures for rural development, strengthened local governments and institutions, improved infrastructure and promoted the participation of local communities. It encouraged Member States with extensive expertise to continue sharing best practices and strengthening international cooperation on integral and sustainable alternative development, including cross-continental and interregional cooperation and subregional and regional technical cooperation. The Commission welcomed the proposal by Thailand to host an international seminar/workshop on the implementation of the Guiding Principles, and noted that implementation of the Principles would require a long-term commitment by Member States and collaboration among UNODC, other international and regional organizations, civil society, development agencies, and donors and financial institutions, which were invited to participate in the seminar/workshop. The UNODC Executive Director was requested to report to the Commission at its fifty-eighth (2015) session.

HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases. A secretariat note [E/CN.7/2014/11] prepared in response to Commission resolution 51/14 [YUN 2008, p. 1372] dis-

cussed the promotion of coordination and the alignment of decisions between CND and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

Pursuant to Commission resolution 49/4 [YUN 2006, p. 1456], the UNODC Executive Director submitted a report [E/CN.7/2014/12] on progress in responding to the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among drug users. The report reviewed the UNODC response and summarized activities implemented in 2012 and 2013 in HIV/AIDS policy and programme development; scaling up HIV prevention, treatment and care and the provision of support services; dissemination of tools, guidelines and best practices; and legal and policy reviews and building capacity among law enforcement officials. UNODC delivered technical assistance in compliance with the relevant declarations, resolutions and decisions of UN bodies, and assisted Member States, civil society organizations and other partners in developing, adopting and implementing strategies and programmes on HIV/AIDS related to drug use, particularly for people who injected drugs, and policies and programmes for HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support in prisons and other closed settings. At the end of 2012, an estimated 35.3 million people were living with HIV worldwide. That represented an increase from previous years, as more people were receiving the life-saving antiretroviral therapy. There were 2.3 million new HIV infections globally, a 33 per cent decline from the number of new infections recorded in 2001 (3.4 million), due primarily to a reduction in the sexual transmission of HIV. Injecting drug use continued to drive the expansion of the HIV epidemic in many countries. In 2013, an estimated 14 million people injected drugs worldwide, and of those, 1.6 million, or 11.5 per cent, were living with HIV. There was a high prevalence of injecting drug use in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe and in Central Asia: 1.3 per cent of the population aged 15 to 64 (four times the global average); and there were elevated rates of HIV infection among people who injected drugs in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as well as in East and South-East Asia. HIV transmission through injecting drug use emerged as a major concern in East Africa and was reported in several other African countries. Hepatitis C represented another major health challenge. In 2011, 51 per cent of all people who injected drugs were living with hepatitis C, and, as with HIV, the transmission of hepatitis C was fuelled by incarceration. The prevalence of HIV, sexually transmitted infections, hepatitis B and C and tuberculosis was from 2 to 20 (and in some cases up to 50) times higher among prison populations than the general population.

The Executive Director noted that an approach to drug use and dependence that was centered on public health, based on human rights and informed by evi-

dence had yet to be implemented. In many affected countries, the national AIDS and drugs policies, strategies and programmes needed to be reviewed, and in countries where the HIV epidemic was driven by unsafe injecting use, there was a need to prioritize the implementation of needle and syringe programmes and long-acting opioid maintenance therapy. People who used drugs in prisons should have access to health services, and interventions in prisons should be integrated into national plans and programmes on drugs, AIDS and tuberculosis, with resources allocated for their implementation.

Data collection, reporting and analysis. Pursuant to Commission resolution 53/16 [YUN 2010, p. 1250], the Executive Director submitted a report [E/CN.7/2014/7] that contained an analysis of the second round of responses provided by Member States to parts I and II of the annual report questionnaire concerning action taken to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem. The report addressed measures taken by States in the areas of drug demand and supply reduction, countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation, and included related recommendations.

In accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2013/235 [YUN 2013, p. 1223], the Secretary-General transmitted [E/CN.3/2014/19 & Corr.1] to the Statistical Commission (see p. 000) the UNODC report on improving the quality and availability of drug statistics, which outlined the status and challenges faced by countries and international and regional organizations in the collection and reporting of data on the supply and use of drugs. The report stated that the availability of high-quality data on drug use and supply remained key to understanding the drug situation at the national, regional and global levels, and data on drug indicators not only provided a tool for planning, monitoring and evaluating drug policies nationally, but also served as the basis for reviewing international and regional plans of action and strategies. It proposed actions on improving methodologies; promoting and reinforcing the role of national statistical offices; developing capacity to improve data collection and reporting; and improving international data collection and analysis. It also stressed the need to establish a joint working group of the Statistical Commission and CND to develop standards and guidelines for the priority indicators, and invited stakeholders to review the regional and international mechanisms for collection, analysis and reporting of drug statistics.

Paris Pact initiative. In accordance with CND resolution 56/3 [YUN 2013, p. 1210], a report [E/CN.7/2014/14] of the UNODC Executive Director described steps taken by the Office to strengthen international cooperation in combating illicit opiates

originating in Afghanistan through continuous and reinforced support to the Paris Pact initiative. UNODC and Paris Pact partners continued to recognize the challenges for all stakeholders tackling the menace of opiates originating in Afghanistan, and the need to strengthen coordination between partners and to streamline the Paris Pact framework towards operationalizing the Vienna Declaration [YUN 2012, p. 1184]. The launch of the fourth phase of the Paris Pact initiative, on 1 June 2013, was a critical juncture for the partnership to implement an operationally oriented approach for interventions. The fourth phase commenced with the identification of two dimensions within the Paris Pact: the initiative itself, which encompassed 58 partner countries and 21 organizations, including UNODC; and the UNODC programme, with its main objective of supporting the initiative. The fourth phase emphasized the partnership as a multi-layered initiative that defined policy and translated it into action, with the objective of demonstrating the results of heightened collaboration on the four pillars for intervention outlined in the Vienna Declaration: strengthening regional initiatives; blocking financial flows linked to illicit traffic in opiates; preventing the diversion of precursor chemicals; and reducing drug abuse and dependence. UNODC was engaged in the development of a systematic means for measuring progress on the four priority areas, and the streamlining of the initiative was expected to culminate in an annual global report that would facilitate systematic updating. The objective of the first year of fourth-phase implementation was to organize an expert working-group meeting on each pillar of the Declaration prior to the Policy Consultative Group Meeting scheduled for June 2014 ((12)). UNODC strengthened coordination among Paris Pact partners, and particularly with all relevant interdivisional UNODC specialist sections and programmes. In line with the UNODC interregional drug control approach that served to interconnect its programmes addressing the opiate trade originating in Afghanistan, the Paris Pact initiative coordinated with the regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries and the regional programme for South-Eastern Europe.

Supporting recovery from drug use disorders. On 21 March [E/2014/28 (res. 57/4)], the Commission recognized that drug use disorders could result in chronic conditions that required treatment based on scientific evidence and support from governmental and community initiatives, and invited Member States to identify and, where necessary, reform their policies, practices and laws in order to facilitate further access to recovery and reintegration services. Member States, in partnership with different levels of government and with civil society and communities, should also explore means to support those in recovery, providing measures to ensure non-stigmatizing attitudes, reduce marginalization and discrimination

and promote social reintegration. CND requested that Member States facilitate exchanges on developing a chronic-care approach to the treatment of drug use disorders and to gather and share scientific evidence on recovery and recovery-oriented programmes. It also invited Member States, multilateral institutions and others to share information on national and international experiences and best practices related to recovery programmes, recovery activities, and communities and organizations that supported recovery. It further requested UNODC to facilitate opportunities for Member States to share their experiences on the implementation of the resolution with the Commission at its fifty-eighth (2015) session.

Prevention based on scientific evidence. On 21 March [res. 57/3], the Commission recognized that a core component of a successful drug control and demand reduction strategy was the prevention of drug abuse, and that prevention based on scientific evidence and on a process of adaptation to local cultural and socioeconomic circumstances was the most cost-effective approach and an investment in the well-being of children, adolescents, youth, families and communities. The Commission invited Member States to improve the coverage and quality of drug abuse prevention systems, interventions and policies based on scientific evidence, and, through bilateral, regional and international cooperation, to collaborate in the implementation of the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention. It encouraged States to periodically undertake scientific evaluations of the effectiveness of their drug abuse prevention programmes and policies and to share the results of those studies widely. The Commission also requested UNODC to continue to disseminate scientific evidence on drug abuse prevention; to support Member States in improving the knowledge and skills of their policymakers, practitioners and researchers working in the area of drug abuse prevention; and to enhance coordination efforts with other relevant UN organizations. It requested the UNODC Executive Director to report to the Commission at its fifty-eighth (2015) session on the implementation of the resolution.

Prevention through sport. On 21 March [res. 57/2], the Commission called upon Member States to cooperate with sport-related organizations, including the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee, in their efforts to use sport as a tool to promote a healthy lifestyle free from drug abuse. It welcomed the cooperation among Member States, the United Nations and its specialized agencies, funds and programmes, and sport-related organizations in seeking to contribute, through sport, to raising awareness of and to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It encouraged Member States and organizers of sporting events to use those events as a platform for promoting social inclusion and for increasing awareness of the dangers of

drug abuse, and recognized the potential for athletes to play a leading role in and contribute to the promotion of a healthy lifestyle by emphasizing participation in sports as an alternative to drug abuse. CND also encouraged Member States to promote equal access to sports and other healthy pursuits for children and young people as a means of drug abuse prevention, and to exchange experiences on the theme of drug abuse prevention through sport at a future session of the Commission.

Education and training on drug use disorders.

On 21 March [res. 57/6], the Commission recognized the need for better training and education on treating drug dependence and noted the absence of corresponding minimum standards, despite scientific evidence from WHO and UNODC that drug dependence was a preventable and treatable disorder. The Commission invited Member States to strengthen professional knowledge and skills for those working with people affected by drug use disorders; to collaborate in the provision of scientific and evidence-based education and training programmes; and to promote a comprehensive approach to the study of substance use disorders. It highlighted the importance of strengthening the capacity of competent and experienced trainers and of using an interdisciplinary approach to the development of educational and training programmes. It emphasized the need to promote the quality and availability of education and training and to strengthen intersectoral collaboration involving, inter alia, health and law enforcement professionals and civil society, in accordance with domestic legal frameworks. The Commission also recognized the importance of continual quality assurance regarding training, including its regular monitoring, evaluation and supervision, and encouraged Member States to share best practices in the field of education and training.

Health services during economic downturns.

On 21 March [res. 57/7], the Commission noted the importance of public health services for drug use disorders at times of long-term and sustained economic downturns, the effects of which might exacerbate challenges related to health and well-being; lead to a rise in the marginalization of people affected by drug use disorders; and have an impact on resources as well as drug demand and supply reduction policies. The Commission recognized that addressing the world drug problem demanded an integrated, multidisciplinary approach and encouraged Member States, in cooperation with stakeholders, to ensure that measures taken at the national and local levels in response to long-term and sustained economic downturns did not disproportionately affect the implementation of comprehensive and balanced drug demand and supply reduction policies, including for the provision of health measures. It invited Member States to assist each other in meeting economic challenges, acknowledged the role of civil society, in particular

non-governmental organizations (NGOs), in addressing the world drug problem and invited Member States to continue providing, including in times of economic downturn, the best attainable coverage, accessibility and quality with regard to health and social services.

Illicit cultivation, manufacture and trafficking

World situation on trafficking. In its report [E/CN.7/2014/4] on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking, the CND Secretariat reviewed global trends in the illicit cultivation of drug crops, the production of plant-based drugs and drug trafficking. Afghanistan continued to account for most of the illicit cultivation of opium poppy in the world. Cultivation in that country reached a record level in 2013, amounting to 209,000 hectares (ha). The increase was generally confined to the main opium-poppy-growing areas in the southern and western regions of the country. Opium production in Afghanistan increased by 49 per cent, to 5,500 tons. In the three Andean States—Bolivia, Colombia and Peru—that continued to account for virtually all cultivation of coca bush in the world, the total area under cultivation decreased in 2012; global cocaine seizures remained stable, however, in the same year. Seizures of cocaine in South America increased, while seizures in North America decreased. Worldwide, cannabis continued to be the plant-based drug most widely produced, trafficked and used on an illicit basis. Data suggested that global seizures of cannabis herb decreased owing to a reduction in the quantity reported to have been seized in North America. Global seizures of cannabis resin were stable, but with a shift in seizure trends showing that a greater proportion were occurring in North Africa. Global seizures of methamphetamine continued to rise and in recent years its global market had expanded significantly. The annual amount of methamphetamine seized globally increased rapidly between 2008 and 2012, with worldwide seizures exceeding 90 tons in 2012. Global seizures of methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), commonly known as “ecstasy”, increased in 2012, but they remained well below the levels recorded between 2002 and 2007. The Secretariat reaffirmed that illicit drug characterization and forensic profiling remained invaluable in supporting law enforcement intelligence-gathering and operational work and in the international efforts against illicit drugs, but it noted the lack of extrabudgetary resources required to develop standardized guidelines.

Measures to support the Greater Mekong subregion. On 21 March [E/2014/28 (res. 57/11)], the Commission welcomed the initiatives, efforts and partnerships demonstrated by the countries of the Greater Mekong subregion in the area of drug control, and recognized their need to enhance and expand cooperation between all relevant stakeholders in the

areas of demand reduction and supply reduction to counteract the illicit production, manufacturing, trafficking and abuse of drugs and the diversion of precursor chemicals. The Commission appreciated the efforts made through the mechanism of the 1993 Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control between the countries of the Greater Mekong subregion and UNODC, and, in the framework of that mechanism, encouraged Member States and other donors to provide technical assistance and support to the countries of the Greater Mekong subregion to strengthen their capacities to counter drug problems. It also encouraged international cooperation between Member States, with mutual respect for domestic legislation and their commitments under the drug control conventions, and called for efforts to enhance mutual understanding to avoid possible impediments to such cooperation. It requested UNODC to report to the Commission's fifty-eighth (2015) session.

Recommendations of subsidiary bodies

A secretariat report [E/CN.7/2015/5] described actions taken by four subsidiary bodies of the Commission during the year. Each of the bodies reviewed trends in drug trafficking and regional and subregional cooperation; addressed drug law enforcement issues of priority; and reviewed the implementation of previous recommendations. The report included the recommendations generated by the subsidiary bodies at their 2014 meetings (see below).

The Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 15–19 September) [UNODC/HONLAF/24/5] made recommendations on trends and developments regarding new psychoactive and other substances not under international control; addressing challenges posed by the cultivation and abuse of cannabis; and responding to the threat posed by heroin trafficking, including by sea. The Twenty-fourth Meeting of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean (Asunción, Paraguay, 6–10 October) [UNODC/HONLAC/24/5] agreed to recommendations on measures adopted to reduce the diversion of precursor chemicals, with reference to international cooperation and technical assistance; non-therapeutic use, diversion and abuse of medical preparations; and demand reduction, prevention and treatment. The Thirty-eighth Meeting of HONLEA, Asia and the Pacific (Bangkok, Thailand, 21–24 October) [UNODC/HONLAP/38/5] adopted recommendations on responding to trafficking in synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances and preventing the diversion of chemical precursors; measures to amend legislation, agency practices and procedures that might improve the responses of national authorities to challenges posed by drug trafficking and related organized criminal offences; and collaboration and coordination among drug law enforcement agencies. The

forty-ninth session of the Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East (Vienna, 10–13 November) [UNODC/SUBCOM/49/5] made recommendations on the misuse of sea containers for the trafficking of illicit drugs, and possible investigative techniques; emerging challenges for Afghanistan and the region in relation to drug trafficking; and demand reduction responses, including to reduce the abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and the non-therapeutic use of pharmaceutical preparations.

Conventions

International efforts to control narcotic drugs were governed by three global conventions: the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs [YUN 1961, p. 382], which, with some exceptions of detail, replaced earlier narcotics treaties and was amended by the 1972 Protocol [YUN 1972, p. 397] to strengthen the role of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB); the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances [YUN 1971, p. 380]; and the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances [YUN 1988, p. 690].

As at 31 December, the number of States parties to the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs or that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol stood at 186. The number of parties to the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances remained at 183 as at 31 December. With the accession of Timor-Leste in June, the number of parties to the 1988 Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances increased to 189.

Implementation of drug control treaties

Review of substances for scheduling recommendations. The Commission had before it a Secretariat note [E/CN.7/2014/10] with information on the provisions of the international drug control conventions for the possible scheduling of substances, and identified challenges related to the review of substances and possible approaches to make the scheduling process more effective. Annexed to the note were descriptions of the scheduling procedures under the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and those of the 1971 Convention, and summaries of the relevant provisions of the 1988 Convention. The Secretariat note drew upon the work of international expert consultations on new psychoactive substances, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 September 2013, and the outcome document prepared by the UNODC Laboratory and Scientific Section. There was renewed interest in the scheduling process due to the emergence of new psychoactive substances and international cooperation was needed to maximize the use of the tools available under the Conventions. The experts recommended the

development of simplified guidance for States parties on the scheduling process and identified ways to make the scheduling procedures more effective. The note concluded that the ability to schedule substances with potential for misuse or harm was a central element of a well-functioning international drug control system and proposed actions for consideration by the Commission.

Changes in the scope of control substances. In a January note [E/CN.7/2014/9], the Secretariat transmitted to the Commission a notification from the President of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) concerning the inclusion of *alpha*-phenylacetonitrile (APAAN) in Table I of the 1988 Convention. The Board was of the opinion that the international control of APAAN was required in order to limit its availability for illicit drug manufacture and thus reduce the quantity of amphetamine and methamphetamine manufactured illicitly from that substance.

On 19 March [E/2014/28 (dec. 57/1)], the Commission decided by 40 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include APAAN and its optical isomers in Table I of the 1988 Convention.

Illicit activities related to opium poppy seeds. On 21 March [E/2014/28 (res. 57/8)], the Commission encouraged Member States to implement the control provisions recommended in Economic and Security Council resolution 1999/32 [YUN 1999, p. 1166] on the international regulation and control of trade in poppy seeds; to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation and exchange of information with the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) towards implementation of that resolution; and to exchange information and best practices on ways to prevent attempts to disguise and conceal in other consignments opium poppy straw and other narcotic drugs for illicit purposes. The Commission encouraged Member States in which the import of opium poppy seeds was permitted to consider recommendation 28 of the 2009 INCB report [YUN 2009, p. 1241], which urged those countries to require a certificate from the country of origin of the seeds as the basis for importation; and it requested INCB to continue to invite Member States to ensure the implementation of article 22 of the 1961 Single Convention, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, concerning the prohibition of illicit opium poppy cultivation.

Preventing the diversion of ketamine. Also on 21 March [res. 57/10], the Commission urged Member States to address the problem of the diversion of ketamine from licit medical use by monitoring emerging trends in its abuse, diversion, illicit manufacture, and illicit domestic and international non-medical distribution; controlling its use by placing it on a list of substances controlled under their national legislation; and paying special attention to the need to adopt

measures to ensure adequate availability of and access to ketamine for medical and scientific purposes. CND also called upon Member States to adopt measures aimed at detecting and countering its diversion and trafficking, including trafficking through the Internet; to consider adopting an import and export authorization system for its licit international trade; and to share information and cooperate at the bilateral, regional and international levels with a view to detecting and controlling its diversion from the licit market, in particular by strengthening cooperation in law enforcement activities and by fostering cooperation among the relevant national health authorities. The UNODC Executive Director was requested to report to the Commission's fifty-eighth (2015) session.

Identification of new psychoactive substances. On the same date [res. 57/9], CND urged Member States and relevant organizations to continue collecting data on new psychoactive substances and their threats to public health and safety; to share best practices on demand reduction measures and treatment practices based on scientific evidence; to collaborate on the development of multifaceted prevention strategies that provided information on the potential adverse health and social effects of new psychoactive substances; and to exchange ideas and experiences in adopting responses to the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances. The Commission invited UNODC to incorporate a focus on new psychoactive substances in its programmes and communications; invited the World Health Organization (WHO) to review new psychoactive substances; and urged Member States to strengthen international cooperation in the exchange of information regarding the identification of new psychoactive substances, the methods used for their distribution and the modi operandi of criminal and other organizations involved in their production, processing and distribution. It also urged Member States to respond swiftly to the emergence of new psychoactive substances; to use, follow and/or apply the scheduling processes and control measures established under the 1961 Single Convention, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances; and to support activities under the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) task force on new psychoactive substances.

INCB action. In its report covering 2014 [E/INCB/2014/1, Sales No. E.15.XI.1] (see below), the Board reiterated its invitation to WHO to evaluate the potential medical utility of cannabis and the extent to which cannabis posed a risk to human health; and reminded Governments that had established programmes for the use of cannabis for medical purposes, or were considering such initiatives, of their reporting and licensing obligations under the international treaties. The Board also noted that the amount of opiate raw material available for the manufacturing of narcotic

drugs for medical purposes, including for pain relief, was more than sufficient to satisfy the level of demand, as estimated by Governments, with both production and stocks continuing to increase. It therefore urged cultivating and producing countries of opiate raw material for medical and scientific purposes to take into consideration the 1961 Single Convention, in which parties were required to prevent the accumulation of poppy straw in excess of quantities required for the normal conduct of business, taking into account the prevailing market conditions. Pursuant to CND resolution 57/9 (see above), INCB called on Member States to support WHO in assessing new psychoactive substances and in providing scheduling recommendations to the Commission; INCB also reiterated its position with regard to the legalization of the non-medical use of scheduled substances and urged all States to ensure full compliance with the international treaties to which they were parties.

International Narcotics Control Board

INCB held its 109th (3–7 February), 110th (19–30 May) and 111th (28 October–14 November) sessions, all in Vienna.

In accordance with the tasks assigned to it under the international conventions, the Board monitored the implementation of the international drug control treaties and maintained a permanent dialogue with Governments. The information received from Governments was used to identify the enforcement of treaty provisions requiring them to limit to medical and scientific purposes the licit manufacture of, trade in and distribution and use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The Board, which was required by the treaties to report annually on the drug control situation worldwide, noted gaps and weaknesses in national control and treaty compliance and made recommendations for improvements at the national and international levels.

The Board's 2014 report [E/INCB/2014/1, Sales No. E.15.XI.1] reviewed efforts by the international community to take a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to implementing the provisions of the international drug control treaties to respond to the world drug problem. The outcome of that approach should be not only to reduce or prevent the illicit production of, trafficking in and use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, but also to facilitate the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes. Acting under its mandate to assess the licit use of internationally controlled drugs, the Board drew attention to major discrepancies among regions in terms of their availability. Despite progress in some regions, approximately three quarters of the world's population lived in countries with low-level or non-existent access to medicines containing narcotic drugs and had inadequate access to treatment for severe pain, while 92

per cent of the world's morphine was consumed by 17 per cent of the world's population, primarily in North America, Oceania and Western Europe. Comparable discrepancies also existed in relation to access to psychotropic substances for licit purposes. The amount of opiate raw material available for the production of opioid analgesics for pain relief was more than sufficient to satisfy the requirements and consumption reported by Governments; global stocks were increasing and the low demand for opioid analgesics in many countries was not the result of a shortage of licitly produced raw materials. The Board stressed that the situation could be improved through corrective action by States parties to address the regulatory, attitudinal, knowledge-related, economic and procurement-related problems identified as the main causes of the inadequate availability of opioids. The Board stressed the importance of both drug demand and supply reduction strategies and noted that depleting illicit supply and reducing demand had a mutually reinforcing effect. The report reviewed the socioeconomic and sociocultural aspects that impacted both the supply and demand aspects of the drug problem and stressed that illicit cultivation was intertwined with socioeconomic factors, thus its reduction and elimination should be addressed in the broader context of sustainable development. INCB made the following recommendations to Member States: to consider the principles of international law in respecting their obligations assumed by ratification of the conventions and in interpreting their provisions; to encourage the cooperation of stakeholders in the planning, implementation and monitoring of drug control policies; to consider their obligation to ensure the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes and enhance their cooperation with the Board, WHO and other relevant stakeholders; to ensure that demand reduction was one of the priorities of their drug control policies; and to place equal emphasis on supply and demand reduction, taking into consideration the socioeconomic, sociocultural, security and stability aspects that impacted the drug problem.

In its review of the functioning of the international drug control system, the report considered issues on promoting the consistent application of the treaties; ensuring the implementation of their provisions; Governments' cooperation with the Board; evaluation of overall treaty compliance; and action taken by the Board to ensure the treaties' implementation. It also covered special topics such as control measures applicable to programmes for the use of cannabis for medical purposes pursuant to the 1961 Single Convention; the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in emergency situations; the use of methylphenidate; new psychoactive substances; and the development of an international electronic import and export authorization system for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

The Board's report was supplemented by the following reports: *Narcotic Drugs: Estimated World Requirements for 2015—Statistics for 2013* [E/INCB/2014/2]; *Psychotropic Substances: Statistics for 2013—Assessments of Annual Medical and Scientific Requirements for Substances in Schedules II, III and IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971* [E/INCB/2014/3]; and *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2014 on the Implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988* [E/INCB/2014/4].

By **decision 2014/235** of 16 July, the Economic and Social Council took note of the INCB report for 2013 [YUN 2013, p. 1214].

World drug situation

In its 2014 report [E/INCB/2014/1, Sales No. E.15.XI.1] INCB presented a regional analysis of world drug abuse trends and control efforts to keep Governments aware of situations that might endanger the objectives of international drug control treaties. For each region, the report provided information on major developments; regional cooperation; national legislation, policy and action; cultivation, production, manufacture and trafficking; and abuse and treatment.

Africa

The deteriorating political situation in some African subregions spurred increases in illicit drug trafficking and worsening public health problems related to drug use. West Africa, for example, saw more manufacturing and trafficking of methamphetamine, while a rise in drug trafficking into and out of Liberia led to increased national security concerns. Cannabis remained a major illicit drug of concern, and its production, trafficking and abuse continued. Despite eradication efforts, it was illicitly cultivated throughout the continent, while the illicit production of cannabis resin was limited to a few countries in North Africa. Morocco remained one of the largest cannabis resin producers in the world, notwithstanding that production in the country was reportedly declining. Use of khat, a plant-based substance not under international control, remained highly prevalent in some African countries. It was cultivated in East Africa, predominantly in Ethiopia and Kenya, where its abuse was widespread. The trafficking of opiates through Africa continued, owing to limited law enforcement capacity in the region. East Africa was increasingly used as a transit route for heroin originating in Asia and bound for markets in South and West Africa. Southern Africa remained a key link in the global transit of heroin and cocaine. New trends related to trafficking in amphetamine-type stimulants

indicated a growing domestic market throughout Africa, as well as the smuggling of amphetamine-type stimulants to East and South-East Asia and Oceania. The clandestine manufacture of methaqualone in the region continued.

The African Union implemented its Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention for the 2013–2017 period, which provided a strategic framework to guide the development of drug policy. With the support of UNODC, the African Union held expert group meetings on the Plan of Action on Drug Control in Southern Africa. UNODC continued to implement tailored programmes in the region, including the Container Control Programme; the Airport Communication Project; and the regional programmes on drugs and crime for East Africa for the 2009–2015 period. The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) continued to implement its Regional Action Plan to Address the Growing Problem of Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime and Drug Abuse in West Africa, which had been extended until 2015. South Africa adopted a national master plan on drugs for 2013–2017 and, in April, amended the Drugs and Drug Trafficking Act of 1992 to classify as illegal the street-drug mixtures of heroin and cannabis known locally as “nyaope” or “woonga”. Ghana approved an amendment to the schedule of the Narcotic Drug (Control Enforcement and Sanctions) Law of 1990 to control certain new psychoactive substances and other psychotropic substances, such as methamphetamine and its derivatives.

Americas

Central America and the Caribbean. Owing to its geographical location and weak governing institutions, Central America and the Caribbean continued to be exploited by local gangs and international organized criminal groups as a transit and trans-shipment route for illicit drugs originating in South America and destined for consumer markets in North America and Europe. Local consumption of illegal drugs also appeared to be growing in many countries of the region. Costa Rica and Honduras remained primary trans-shipment points. The amount of cocaine trafficked through Central America increased, particularly along the border between Guatemala and Honduras, following an intensification of law enforcement efforts in Mexico. More than 80 per cent of all cocaine trafficked to the United States transited the region, and the illicit drugs produced in the region increased. Cannabis was produced mainly in small quantities for local consumption, but regionally, the production and trafficking of new psychoactive substances increased. Traffickers were turning to the importation of non-scheduled precursor chemicals to manufacture methamphetamine through alternative methods to avoid stricter regional control measures in

place since 2011. There was intensified competition in cocaine trafficking, as the most lucrative source of income for organized criminal groups, and a corresponding increase in the level of violence, especially in the northern part of the region: Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. The drug problem had contributed to high levels of street violence and drug-related corruption, which had further overloaded the criminal justice system.

In April, the UNODC regional programme for 2014–2016 in support of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) crime and security strategy was launched. In September, at the forty-sixth special session of the Organization of American States, officials from the 35 member states discussed counter-narcotics policies in the Americas. Costa Rica reported in February that it had adopted Act No. 9161, a comprehensive amendment of Act No. 8204 on Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, Illicit Drugs, Related Activities, Money-Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism. El Salvador continued to implement its national anti-drug strategy for 2011–2015. In Panama, national institutions continued the process of strengthening and/or restructuring their national intelligence systems.

North America. In North America, the social and human costs of drug abuse remained considerable. The region continued to have the highest drug-related mortality rate of any subregion in the world (142.1 per million inhabitants aged 15 to 64 years), and overdose deaths, primarily related to prescription opioids, outnumbered homicides and road accident fatalities. The tightening of regulatory controls for the dispensing of prescription opioids, coupled with efforts by pharmaceutical companies to develop tamper-proof formulations of commonly abused prescription drugs, contributed to a major resurgence in heroin abuse, following several years of decline. Although seizures of cocaine fell by 44 per cent between 2007 and 2012, they continued to be the largest outside the Andean region. There was a slight increase in cocaine abuse in the adult population of the United States in 2012, although it remained stable among young people and declined marginally in 2013. The availability of cannabis continued to increase, driven by increased production in all three countries and tolerant policies in many states in the United States. Cannabis remained the most widely available and abused illicit drug in the region, and the one that was most trafficked between North American countries. Sales of cannabis for non-medical purposes began in the States of Colorado and Washington, and voters in the States of Oregon, Alaska and the District of Columbia approved ballot initiatives on its non-medical use in their jurisdictions. Those developments occurred despite a conflict with the Controlled Substances Act, a federal statute which prohibited cannabis production, trafficking and possession. In the United States, 23

states and the District of Columbia had enacted legislation allowing for the creation of medical cannabis programmes.

The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) remained the main vehicle for cooperation between the three countries in the region, which was extensive. In July, the United States released its National Drug Control Strategy for 2014, which emphasized public health approaches to addressing the drug problem; identified the abuse of prescription drugs and heroin as major challenges; addressed the growing threat posed by new psychoactive substances, such as synthetic cannabinoids and synthetic cathinones; and contained enhanced measures aimed at combating transnational organized crime. Canada addressed the growing problem of prescription drug abuse by reinforcing implementation of its National Anti-Drug Strategy. The United States and Canada had also created prescription drug monitoring programmes and adopted measures to promote the interoperability of those programmes among sub-national jurisdictions. In Mexico, the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical purposes remained low, resulting in limited access by patients with legitimate medical needs. Mexico was examining changes to its regulatory structure to remove impediments to the prescription and dispensing of such drugs for medical use. In 2013, Canada introduced a bill aimed at creating a legal framework that would allow for the establishment and operation of supervised drug injection sites. The Board reiterated its concern that such facilities could be inconsistent with the provisions of the international drug control conventions. In May, the State of Minnesota signed a bill into law that established a medical cannabis programme, and in July, the State of New York signed a bill into law that allowed doctors to prescribe cannabis for medical purposes. The Board reminded governments in jurisdictions that had established medical cannabis programmes, or that were considering doing so, that the 1961 Single Convention, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, set out specific requirements for their establishment, administration and monitoring, and encouraged governments to ensure that their medical cannabis programmes fully implemented the measures in the Convention.

South America. South America continued to be affected by the illicit cultivation of coca bush, cannabis plant and, in some countries, opium poppy, all of which were processed, usually in the country of cultivation, into the corresponding plant-based drugs. Aside from being the source for virtually the entire supply of the world's cocaine, the region also accounted for a significant proportion of its global consumption. The illicit use of cannabis and, to a lesser extent amphetamine-type stimulants, also affected segments of the population. As of 2012, South America accounted for almost one fifth of all past-

year cocaine users globally, and slightly less than one tenth of cannabis users. One issue of special concern was the consumption of smokable forms of cocaine. Among the drugs and psychotropic substances most abused on a global scale, cocaine was the only one for which the illicit processes leading to the consumable end product (cultivation, production and manufacture) were largely confined to a specific region—South America. In particular, illicit coca bush cultivation was concentrated in the three countries of Bolivia, Colombia and Peru. In recent years, the global supply of cocaine originating in South America had been curtailed to an extent that had a perceptible effect on major consumer markets. During the 2007–2013 period, the total area under cultivation for coca bush in Bolivia, Colombia and Peru fell by approximately one third, and cocaine availability remained significantly lower than during the peak levels reached around 2006.

South America was characterized by a high level of awareness of the illicit supply of and demand for controlled substances, in addition to a well-developed infrastructure at the national and regional levels to monitor and counter that phenomenon. The Board welcomed the number of regional cooperation activities, including the provision of training and legal assistance, organized by the countries in the region in cooperation with the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) and UNODC. Other aspects that received attention dealt with efforts to combat the trafficking in and diversion of precursors, maritime trafficking and the abuse of smokable forms of cocaine. In March 2013, Peru approved a new regulation concerning chemicals, equipment and material used for the illicit manufacture of drugs. Under the national strategy to combat drugs implemented by Peru for 2012–2016, the eradication of coca bush intensified in the major coca growing regions.

Asia

East and South-East Asia. East and South-East Asia had some of the largest and most established illicit markets for amphetamine-type stimulants in the world. Further increases in trafficking and manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants constituted the leading source of drug-related activity in the region. They were the most abused drugs in a number of countries with demand for them, particularly for methamphetamine, continued to grow and diversify. Most of the methamphetamine abused was manufactured in clandestine laboratories within the region. The trafficking of precursors used in the manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants remained one of the biggest challenges in precursor control. Seizures of large quantities of pharmaceutical preparations containing pseudoephedrine continued to be reported by several countries. Illicit opium poppy cultivation and production increased, mainly in Myanmar and

the Lao People's Democratic Republic. Myanmar remained the second-largest grower of opium poppy in the world after Afghanistan. Despite the eradication in 2013 of a total of 13,000 ha reported by the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Thailand, illicit opium poppy cultivation continued to rise. In Myanmar alone, cultivation had grown from 21,600 ha in 2006 to 57,800 in 2013. The risk of greater illicit cultivation in the Golden Triangle was expected to persist until sustainable solutions could be found to the situation of long-term poverty in Shan State, Myanmar.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) held several meetings to exchange information on the drug situation, reiterate the Association's political commitment and call for intensified collaborative efforts. Other regular regional meetings, such as the Asia-Pacific Operational Drug Enforcement Conference and the Anti-Drug Liaison Officials' Meeting for International Cooperation, as well as various subregional cooperation platforms, also facilitated the exchange of information and multilateral collaboration. To further the regional goal of a drug-free ASEAN community in 2015, a number of policies and strategies were launched or extended at the national level. Amendments to existing drug control legislation were adopted in some countries and, in the absence of a unified control framework at the international level, attempts were made to impose stricter controls over new psychoactive substances at the national level.

South Asia. The greatest drug-related challenges facing South Asia in 2013 remained trafficking in Afghan heroin; the rise in the manufacturing and trafficking of methamphetamine; the diversion of controlled substances from licit to illicit channels; and the abuse of pharmaceutical preparations containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the smuggling of such preparations from India to neighbouring countries. Owing to its location between the Golden Crescent (Afghanistan and Pakistan) and the Golden Triangle (Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Thailand), South Asia continued to be particularly vulnerable to the trafficking of opiates and heroin. In addition, the widespread trafficking of cannabis, synthetic drugs and new psychotropic substances persisted in 2013.

All the countries in South Asia were members of the Colombo Plan for Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific, through which they continued their close partnership with one another, and with the other 21 members of the Plan that were outside of the subregion, on matters of drug abuse prevention and control. In India, the level of availability of and access to opioids for pain relief continued to be low, even though India had long been a licit producer and exporter of opiate raw material, namely opium, a source of pain management medication. In March 2014, the Indian Parliament

adopted amendments to drug control legislation to enable uniform, simplified rules to be issued by the central Government, leading to the removal of the regulatory barriers that had hindered the availability of such drugs for pain relief. The Government of India issued the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Regulation of Controlled Substances) Order, 2013, by which it repealed the 1993 Order of the same name. With the 2013 Order, which designated 17 precursor chemicals as controlled substances, the Government hoped to track controlled substances from source to end user and strike a balance between the legitimate requirements of licit trade and an adequate enforcement regime to prevent the diversion of controlled substances. INCB noted that enforcement agencies in the region needed awareness-raising and training on trafficking in precursors and pharmaceutical preparations to gain a better understanding of the problem. Such capacity-building should be coupled with a strengthening of existing mechanisms for law enforcement coordination at the policy and operational levels.

West Asia. The political instability caused by armed conflict and political strife in West Asia, particularly in Iraq, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine, continued to weaken governance structures and hamper drug control efforts. Moreover, the humanitarian situation in the region caused by large numbers of refugees, internally displaced persons and injured civilians strained the resources of States directly affected by the conflicts, as well as those of neighbouring States taking in large numbers of refugees. In 2014, Afghanistan set a new record for opium poppy cultivation, reaching 224,000 ha, 7 per cent more than the previous year. More than half of the country's 34 provinces had opium poppy cultivation of over 100 ha, and hundreds of thousands of households were involved in illicit cultivation. Opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan was inversely related to security: as security deteriorated, illicit cultivation increased. Afghanistan accounted for 80 per cent of the estimated global illicit production of opium, and production in the country increased to 6,400 tons in 2014, an increase of 17 per cent over the previous year. Nearly 20 per cent of the world's opiate abusers resided in West Asia, as increasing opium production in Afghanistan resulted in greater opium and heroin abuse, primarily in that country and in neighbouring countries located along the expanding trafficking routes.

Cannabis continued to be cultivated and consumed in the subregion, where a growing number of seizures of cannabis resin were reported. Afghanistan continued to be one of the largest producers of cannabis resin. The abuse of amphetamines and cocaine was increasingly problematic in parts of West Asia. Amphetamine dominated the market, and large seizures continue to be reported.

Regional cooperation was essential in West Asia, as the region lay at a crossroads in the global trafficking of opiates, cannabis and precursor chemicals. Stability remained a primary concern in many countries, as well as a concern of the Security Council, and much of the cooperation was increasingly focused on improving political stability in several countries, particularly in Afghanistan. The League of Arab States and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC) played a fundamental role in enhancing cooperation among countries in the region. In December 2013, Afghanistan adopted the National Drug Demand Reduction Policy for the period 2012–2016. Turkey implemented its new national policy and strategy document on drugs for 2013–2018 and, in 2013 and 2014, placed numerous non-scheduled new psychoactive substances under national control, including synthetic cannabinoids, cathinones and piperazines. Several countries amended legislation in response to the growing threat posed by new psychoactive substances: in 2013, Israel added emergency scheduling powers to its existing drug control legislation, and Georgia's law on narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors and narcological assistance was amended to include several synthetic cannabinoids. In the State of Palestine, laws on drug control, money-laundering and cybercrime were adopted, and a national plan on drug control, crime prevention and criminal justice reform for 2014–2017 was developed with UNODC assistance.

Europe

Most countries in Western and Central Europe reported a decline in the prevalence of heroin abuse, in the number of people commencing treatment for heroin abuse for the first time, and in the quantity of heroin seized. However, there were concerns that heroin was being partly replaced by synthetic opioids as deaths associated with heroin abuse declined, but deaths linked to synthetic opioids were on the rise. Changing patterns with regard to injecting drug abuse were noted in some countries, particularly a trend away from the injection of heroin to the injection of synthetic opioids, amphetamine-type stimulants or new psychoactive substances. Compared to the global average, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe had a higher prevalence of injecting drug abuse, and of HIV among people who injected drugs. Relatively high rates of injecting drug abuse were observed in Belarus, Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine. In Eastern Europe, opiate abuse, supported by the supply of heroin from Afghanistan, was significantly higher than the global average. In 2013, there was greater use of the Balkan route for illicit trafficking, and seizures of heroin along that route increased. South-Eastern Europe continued to see an expansion of trafficking in Albanian cannabis, and many countries experienced an increase in the local production of cannabis, in-

cluding a form that was highly potent. The increasing range, availability and abuse of new psychoactive substances remained a major challenge in Europe, with a record level of 81 substances newly identified in 2013 and a greater involvement of organized criminal groups in the market. The countries and areas of the western Balkans, including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Kosovo, continued to cooperate on drug control with member States of the European Union (EU). An agreement between the EU and the Russian Federation on precursor chemicals came into effect in April 2014. In May, representatives of EU member States and countries of the western Balkans met in Brussels to engage in a dialogue on drugs, and bilateral cooperation in addressing trafficking in the region intensified among the countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. As to national legislation, policy and action, Ukraine adopted new rules for handling narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors in medical establishments, which reduced the number of administrative obstacles to their use for medical purposes; Romania adopted its national anti-drug strategy for 2013–2020 and its action plan for 2013–2016; and in Belarus, a presidential decree was adopted on State regulation of the circulation of poppy seeds, which restricted their supply as a raw material for illicit markets in the country. Many European countries took legislative measures to address the challenge posed by new psychoactive substances, and Governments continued to place individual substances and groups of substances under national control: in 2013, 58 substances were placed under control in Lithuania, 35 in the Czech Republic, 26 in Germany, 24 in Switzerland, 21 in Sweden, 9 in Denmark, 5 in Estonia, 4 each in Finland and Italy and 2 in France. Latvia introduced a temporary ban on eight substances, Slovakia added a new section to national drug control legislation to control new psychoactive substances, the Russian Federation expanded its national list of controlled substances to include 43 new psychoactive substances, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia placed 15 new psychoactive substances under national control. In June 2014, an order reclassifying ketamine as a class B drug came into force in the United Kingdom, and a decision to control khat also came into effect.

Oceania

Compared with other regions, Oceania provided an expanding market for certain drugs, including cocaine, and levels of abuse were high for most substances. Seizures and arrests in Oceania were at record highs for many drugs. Increased drug seizures, particularly in Australia, were attributed not only to the vigilance of law enforcement, but also to the increased activities of transnational organized criminal groups. As the monetary value of drugs and precursors remained com-

paratively high throughout Oceania, the region became susceptible to illicit manufacturing and trafficking. Growing markets for amphetamine-type stimulants and proximity to trafficking routes for different illicit drugs led most countries to see higher prevalence rates for their abuse. In most of the region the availability and abuse of new psychoactive substances had become an issue of concern. The expanding market for such substances developed rapidly and presented challenges to law enforcement. The increase in demand was affected by the inability of existing legislation to ensure that such substances were not available.

In April, the sixteenth annual conference of the Oceania Customs Organization, held in Suva, Fiji, discussed communication and information-sharing for better cooperation, and the need for strengthened border security. The secretariat of the Organization also undertook an assessment visit to assist Palau on processes and products related to information and intelligence sharing. In New Zealand, the Psychoactive Substances Amendment Act was passed and came into effect in May, thereby prohibiting the sale of psychoactive substances unless they were approved by the national regulatory authority following clinical trials. The Amendment Act revoked the 2013 Act, which had granted interim approvals for 47 products containing new psychoactive substances and permitted their marketing by 150 licensed retailers. In July, Australia's Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs published the Framework for a National Response to New Psychoactive Substances, which would assist with information sharing and communication regarding new psychoactive substances, harm assessment and scheduling provisions. In 2012 and 2013, various states and territories of Australia passed legislative and regulatory amendments. New South Wales passed the New Psychoactive Substances Act, and Queensland amended the Drugs Misuse Act 1986 to create a new offence for trafficking in precursor chemicals used in the production of dangerous drugs.

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

At its twenty-third session (Vienna, 13 December 2013 and 12–16 May 2014) [E/2014/30], the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) recommended to the Economic and Social Council six draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly on the following matters: follow-up to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [YUN 2010, p. 1094] and preparations for the Thirteenth United Nations

Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners; international cooperation in criminal matters; United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the UN development agenda beyond 2015; and International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences. CCPCJ recommended for the Council's adoption three draft resolutions and two decisions on matters that included strengthening social policies as a tool for crime prevention; the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the post-2015 development agenda; and strengthening international cooperation in addressing the smuggling of migrants. The Commission also adopted three resolutions and one decision, which it brought to the attention of the Council (see below). In addition to holding a thematic discussion on international cooperation in criminal matters, CCPCJ also considered strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions; integration and coordination of efforts by UNODC and Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice; the use and application of UN standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice; world crime trends and emerging issues and responses in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice; follow-up to the Twelfth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Thirteenth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; and the provisional agenda for its twenty-fourth (2015) session.

At its reconvened twenty-third session (Vienna, 4–5 December) [E/2014/30/Add.1], the Commission adopted and brought to the Council's attention one resolution on implementation of the UNODC budget for the biennium 2014–2015. It also recommended one draft decision for adoption by the Council.

On 16 July, by **decision 2014/229**, the Economic and Social Council took note of the CCPCJ report on its reconvened twenty-second (2013) session. On the same date, by **decision 2014/230**, the Council took note of the CCPCJ report on its twenty-third session, reaffirmed Commission decision 21/1 [YUN 2012, p. 1198], took note of Commission decision 22/2 [YUN 2013, p. 1197], and approved the provisional agenda for the Commission's twenty-fourth (2015) session.

Follow-up to the Twelfth UN Crime Congress

In response to General Assembly resolution 68/185 [YUN 2013, p. 1219], the Secretary-General submitted a February report [E/CN.15/2014/6] on the follow-up to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Salvador, Brazil,

12–19 April 2010) [YUN 2010, p. 1094] and the ongoing preparations for the Thirteenth (2015) United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Doha, Qatar. The report covered the regional preparatory meetings for the Thirteenth Congress and the finalization of a discussion guide for those meetings and for the Congress itself. The Secretary-General had organized four regional meetings in preparation for the Thirteenth Congress: Asia and the Pacific (Bangkok, Thailand, 22–24 January) [A/CONF.222/RPM.1/1]; Western Asia (Doha, Qatar, 3–5 February) [A/CONF.222/RPM.2/1]; Latin American and Caribbean (San José, Costa Rica, 19–21 February) [A/CONF.222/RPM.3/1]; and Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 9–11 April) [A/CONF.222/RPM.4/1]. A draft discussion guide [A/CONF.222/PM.1] had been finalized by the Secretariat and made available to the meetings. The report also contained information on actions required of the Commission in reviewing the preparations.

A February note [E/CN.15/2014/9] by the Secretariat recalled that in accordance with rule 63 of the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice adopted at the Twelfth (2010) Congress, the rules of procedure as adopted [A/CONF.213/2] would be made available to the Commission at its twenty-third session.

Also in response to General Assembly resolution 68/185, the Secretary-General submitted a June report [A/69/89] with information on the implementation of that resolution. It provided an overview of the relevant mandates, as well as of the deliberations and actions taken at the twenty-third session of the Commission on issues pertaining to preparations for the Thirteenth Congress and the outcome of those deliberations.

On 18 December (**decision 69/537**), the General Assembly took note of the Secretary-General's report.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 16 July [meeting 45], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2014/30], adopted **resolution 2014/15** without vote [agenda item 17 (c)].

Follow-up to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

[For text, see General Assembly resolution 69/191 below.]

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 18 December [meeting 73], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/69/489], adopted **resolution 69/191** without vote [agenda item 105].

Follow-up to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C(VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415(V) of 1 December 1950,

Acknowledging that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation in that field by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

Recognizing the significant contributions of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice in promoting the exchange of experience in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Recognizing also the efforts already made by the Government of Qatar to prepare for the hosting of the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Doha, including its generous contribution to support the capacity of the Secretariat to ensure effective preparations for the Thirteenth Congress,

Recalling its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in which it stipulated the guidelines in accordance with which, beginning in 2005, the congresses, pursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, should be held,

Recalling also its resolution 65/230 of 21 December 2010 and its resolutions 66/179 of 19 December 2011, 67/184 of 20 December 2012 and 68/185 of 18 December 2013 on the follow-up to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Recalling further, in particular, that in its resolution 68/185 it decided to hold the Thirteenth Congress in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015, with pre-Congress consultations to be held on 11 April 2015,

Mindful that in its resolution 68/185 it also decided that the high-level segment of the Thirteenth Congress would be held during the first two days of the Congress in order to allow Heads of State or Government and government ministers to focus on the main theme of the Congress and to enhance the possibility of generating useful feedback,

Mindful also that in its resolution 68/185 it further decided that, in accordance with its resolution 56/119, the Thirteenth Congress would adopt a single declaration, to be submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for its consideration, and that the declaration would contain the major recommendations reflecting and emerging from the deliberations of the high-

level segment, as well as the discussion of the agenda items and the workshops,

1. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to take into consideration the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World and the recommendations adopted by the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make all efforts, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein, taking into account the economic, social, legal and cultural specificities of their respective States;

2. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to inform the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice about their activities aimed at the implementation of the Salvador Declaration and the recommendations adopted by the Twelfth Congress, with a view to providing guidance on the formulation of legislation, policies and programmes in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice at the national and international levels, and to that end requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the subject, to be submitted to the Congress for its consideration;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made thus far in the preparations for the Thirteenth Congress;

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;

5. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the discussion guide prepared by the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, for the regional preparatory meetings and for the Thirteenth Congress;

6. *Acknowledges* the relevance of the regional preparatory meetings, which have examined the substantive items of the agenda and the workshop topics of the Thirteenth Congress and made action-oriented recommendations, to serve as a basis for the draft declaration to be adopted by the Thirteenth Congress;

7. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to begin, in accordance with its resolution 68/185, the preparation of a short and concise draft declaration, reflecting the theme of the Thirteenth Congress, at intersessional meetings to be held well in advance of the Congress, taking into account the recommendations of the regional preparatory meetings and consultations with relevant organizations and entities;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of the workshops to be held during the Thirteenth Congress, and invites Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant entities to provide financial, organizational and technical support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and to the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network for the preparations for the workshops, including the preparation and circulation of relevant background material;

9. *Reiterates its invitation* to donor countries to cooperate with developing countries to ensure their full participation in the workshops, and encourages States, other entities concerned and the Secretary-General to work together in order to ensure that the workshops focus on their

respective issues and achieve practical results, leading to technical cooperation ideas, projects and documents related to enhancing bilateral and multilateral efforts in technical assistance activities in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice;

10. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make available the resources necessary to ensure the participation of the least developed countries in the Thirteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice;

11. *Encourages* Governments to make preparations for the Thirteenth Congress at an early stage by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees, with a view to contributing to a focused and productive discussion on the topics and to participating actively in the organization and conduct of the workshops, the submission of national position papers on the various substantive items of the agenda and the encouragement of contributions from the academic community and relevant scientific institutions;

12. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to be represented at the Thirteenth Congress at the highest appropriate level, for example by Heads of State or Government or government ministers and attorneys general, to make statements in the high-level segment on the theme and substantive items of the Congress and to participate actively in its proceedings by sending legal and policy experts with special training and practical experience in crime prevention and criminal justice;

13. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations participating in the Thirteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice, as well as meetings of professional and geographical interest groups, and to take appropriate measures to encourage the participation of the academic and research community in the Congress;

14. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to encourage the participation of representatives from relevant entities of the United Nations system in the Thirteenth Congress, bearing in mind the main theme, agenda items and workshop topics of the Congress;

15. *Welcomes* the plan for the documentation of the Thirteenth Congress, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the extended Bureau of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

16. *Also welcomes* the appointment by the Secretary-General of a secretary-general and an executive secretary of the Thirteenth Congress, who will perform their functions under the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare an overview of the state of crime and criminal justice worldwide for presentation at the Thirteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice;

18. *Requests* the Commission to give high priority at its twenty-fourth session to considering the declaration of the Thirteenth Congress, with a view to recommending, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate follow-up by the General Assembly at its seventieth session;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon, through the Commission, to the General Assembly at its seventieth session.

Thirteenth UN Crime Congress

During the regular part of its twenty-third (2014) session, CCPCJ considered the state of progress of the preparations for the Thirteenth (2015) United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Representatives noted that because the Thirteenth Congress would take place on the threshold of UN work on the post-2015 development agenda, it offered a chance to place the role of the criminal justice system in the promotion of the rule of law, and in support of sustainable development, at the centre of international debate. Speakers also highlighted the need for inclusive consultations for the elaboration of a draft declaration in advance of the Congress. On 16 May, the Commission recommended a draft resolution on the matter for adoption by the Economic and Social Council.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 16 July [meeting 45], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2014/30], adopted **resolution 2014/22** without vote [agenda item 17 (e)].

Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the post-2015 development agenda

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006, in which the Assembly reaffirmed the role that the Charter of the United Nations and the General Assembly had vested in the Economic and Social Council, and recognized the need for a more effective Council as a principal body for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development, as well as for implementation of the international development goals agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling also that, through its resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013, the General Assembly decided that the Economic and Social Council should base its annual programme of work on a main theme that would, inter alia, be decided by the Council based on inputs from its subsidiary bodies, as well as Member States, and that an integration segment should be held annually, the main functions of which would be to consolidate all the inputs of Member States, the subsidiary bodies of the Council, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders and to promote the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, namely social, environmental and economic,

Recognizing the preparations for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as set out in General Assembly resolution 67/184 of 20 December 2012, including the decision that the main theme of the Congress would be “Integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and public participation”,

1. *Invites* Member States, international organizations and all relevant stakeholders to provide to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime their views regarding the contribution that the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, considering its main theme, could make to the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda, while respecting the process established by the General Assembly, and requests the Office to report to the Congress on that matter;

2. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes set out in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Communications. In a letter [A/69/424] dated 2 October to the Secretary-General, Qatar transmitted to the General Assembly the Chair's summary of a governmental expert meeting (Doha, Qatar, 27–29 September) on the preparations for the Thirteenth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. The meeting was convened pursuant to Assembly resolution 68/185 [YUN 2013, p. 1219] to facilitate discussion on the contribution that the Thirteenth Congress could make to deliberations on the post-2015 development agenda, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/22 (see above), and to gather views on the preparation of the draft Congress declaration.

In a note verbale [E/CN.15/2014/22] dated 6 October, Qatar transmitted the Chair's summary of the governmental expert meeting to the reconvened twenty-third (2014) session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

World crime trends and emerging issues

At its twenty-third session [E/2014/30], CCPCJ considered the report of the Executive Director [E/CN.7/2014/2-E/CN.15/2014/2] of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on the Office's 2013 activities [YUN 2013, p. 1196] in the framework of its regional and thematic programmes, which included countering transnational organized crime and illicit drug trafficking; countering corruption; terrorism prevention; crime prevention and criminal justice; prevention, treatment and reintegration, and alternative development; research, trend analysis and scientific and forensic support; and the strengthening of UNODC through strategic planning, evaluation, and finance and partnerships.

A further report of the Executive Director to the Commission [E/CN.7/2015/2-E/CN.15/2015/2] described the activities of the Office in those areas in 2014 (see p. 000).

Crime data collection

In accordance with the practice established by Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/18

[YUN 1990, p. 727], the Secretariat submitted a February note [E/CN.15/2014/5] on world crime trends and emerging issues and responses in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. The report described global and regional trends regarding conventional crime, and short- and long-term patterns for homicide, as well as the response of the criminal justice system. It provided an overview of prison populations and systems worldwide, identified challenges faced by criminal justice systems, and presented statistics and data on international cooperation in criminal matters. Statistical data on crime and criminal justice were based on data produced by Member States as reported annually through the UN Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems. The report noted that, while data on common crimes, such as robbery and burglary, were often available at the international level, there was a scarcity of data on more complex types of crimes, such as kidnapping for ransom, corruption offences, specific types of fraud, environmental crimes or offences related to organized crime or gang activities.

At the global level, data on police-recorded offences indicated that conventional crimes followed distinctive trends: property-related crimes decreased considerably, violent crime declined only a little and drug-related offences increased. At the regional level, crime trends diverged: over the previous decade, violent crime had increased in the Americas while declining in Asia and Europe. Levels of intentional homicide in Southern Africa and Central and South America were higher than the global average, and while global trends showed decreasing homicide rates, short-term trends were unstable or increasing in several subregions, indicating that insecurity associated with high homicide levels was persistent in several areas of the world. Rates of suspected and convicted persons were higher in Europe than in Asia and the Americas, and, everywhere, most suspects and convicts were males, while the share of females slowly increased in all regions and the share of child suspects and convicts decreased. The global prison population increased in absolute numbers (10.4 million people at the end of 2012) but remained stable in proportion to the global population. Challenges emerged in relation to high levels of violent deaths among detainees; the large proportion of recidivist prisoners; the substantial proportion of prisoners who were foreign nationals; the large proportion of prisoners who had been sentenced for violent crimes and drug offences; and the rates of prisoners with a non-final sentence (particularly those without any sentence).

The Secretariat recommended that the Commission take note of the share of detainees without a final sentence and encourage Member States to monitor the use and duration of pretrial detention in order to ensure compliance with the UN Principles

and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems; take note of the share of recidivist prisoners and encourage States to monitor efforts in the rehabilitation and social reintegration of offenders; and take note of the increasing diversity of prison populations and encourage States to establish systems of statistics that were sensitive to the special needs and vulnerabilities of certain categories of prisoners and to use the relevant UNODC technical tools and guidance material, including the *Handbook on Prisoners with Special Needs*, the *Handbook on Women and Imprisonment*, and the *Handbook on the International Transfer of Sentenced Persons*.

Report of Secretary-General. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolutions 2012/18 [YUN 2012, p. 1201] and 2013/37 [YUN 2013, p. 1221], the Secretary-General submitted a February report [E/CN.15/2014/10] on improving the quality and availability of statistics on crime and criminal justice for policy development, which outlined activities undertaken by UNODC in accordance with the road map described in the report of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico (INEGI) and UNODC [YUN 2013, p. 1261], approved by the Statistical Commission and CCPCJ and supported by Council resolution 2013/37. The Secretary-General considered the development of new standards and methodology to improve crime statistics; the improvement of capacity to produce and disseminate crime data; the improvement of international data collections and analyses; and the monitoring of security, justice and rule of law in the context of the post-2015 development agenda.

The Secretary-General recommended that CCPCJ encourage Member States to participate in the annual data collection conducted by UNODC through the UN Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems in order to increase the international availability of reliable data and improve analyses of crime threats and the criminal justice response, and to appoint national focal points for the coordination of national responses to the Survey, in order to increase the response rate and improve the quality of national data. The Commission should also encourage UNODC to finalize the draft international classification of crime for statistical purposes to be submitted to the Statistical Commission and CCPCJ in 2015; encourage UNODC and other international organizations to foster the development of methodological tools for the measurement of emerging and complex forms of crime; and encourage UNODC and other international organizations to coordinate and intensify efforts to deliver technical assistance in the field of crime and criminal justice statistics. The Secretary-General welcomed the publication of the *Global Study on Homicide 2013* [Sales No. 14.IV.1] and invited States to consider the success of the UNODC–INEGI Center of Excellence with a view to replicating that experience in other regions.

Child abuse and exploitation through new information technologies

A March report [E/CN.15/2014/7] by the Secretary-General, prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/33 [YUN 2011, p. 1209], summarized the main findings of a UNODC study to facilitate the identification, description and evaluation of the effects of new information technologies on the abuse and exploitation of children. It also contained an assessment of the needs of States for technical assistance, particularly in the training of law enforcement personnel in the investigation of offences against children committed by using new information and communication technologies. The study and the assessment considered data collected by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group to conduct a comprehensive study of the problem of cybercrime, as well as studies carried out by regional and other UN system organizations. The Secretary-General concluded that combating technology-facilitated child abuse and exploitation required further commitments from Governments, the private sector, civil society, teachers, parents and the international community to build awareness, allocate sufficient resources to prevent and combat such crimes, establish supportive government structures, enable proactive investigations, and train practitioners on gathering, preserving and presenting electronic evidence. The Secretary-General recommended that the Commission invite States to review their criminal, procedural and other relevant legislation; enable law enforcement authorities to conduct undercover investigations to address technology-facilitated grooming or child solicitation before it became contact abuse; provide training to law enforcement authorities on gathering, preserving and presenting electronic evidence; strengthen cross-border investigations of child abuse and exploitation cases; establish specialized units within police and prosecution offices to deal with such cases; and develop awareness-raising campaigns for children, parents and caregivers.

Trafficking in cultural property

In a March note [E/CN.15/2014/16], the UNODC Secretariat submitted to CCPCJ the draft guidelines for crime prevention and criminal justice responses with respect to trafficking in cultural property and other related offences. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/186 [YUN 2013, p. 1226], the expert group on protection against trafficking in cultural property had met from 15 to 17 January to review and revise the draft guidelines. The finalized guidelines were contained in the report [UNODC/CCPCJ/EG.1/2014/3] on that meeting, and the expert group recommended that they be adopted by the Commission at its twenty-third (2014) session.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 16 July [meeting 45], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2014/30], adopted **resolution 2014/20** without vote [agenda item 17 (d)].

International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

[For text, see General Assembly resolution 69/196 below.]

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 18 December [meeting 73], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/69/489], adopted **resolution 69/196** without vote [agenda item 105].

International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 66/180 of 19 December 2011 and 68/186 of 18 December 2013, entitled “Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to protect cultural property, especially with regard to its trafficking”,

Recalling also the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption, adopted by the Assembly in its resolution 58/4 of 31 October 2003,

Recalling further the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 14 November 1970, the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects, adopted by the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law on 24 June 1995, and the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, adopted at The Hague on 14 May 1954, and the two Protocols thereto, adopted on 14 May 1954 and 26 March 1999, and other relevant conventions, and reaffirming the necessity for those States which have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to and, as States parties, implementing those international instruments,

Alarmed at the growing involvement of organized criminal groups in all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and observing that illicitly trafficked cultural property is increasingly being sold through all kinds of markets, inter alia, in auctions, in particular over the Internet, and that such property is being unlawfully excavated and illicitly exported or imported with the facilitation of modern and sophisticated technologies,

Recognizing the indispensable role of crime prevention and criminal justice responses in combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences in a comprehensive and effective manner,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to protect cultural property, especially with regard to its trafficking,

Welcoming the initiatives promoted within the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network and the cooperative network established among the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, the World Customs Organization and the International Council of Museums in the area of protection against trafficking in cultural property, and encouraging those entities to continue to play an active role in that area,

Recalling that the theme of the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015, will be “Integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and public participation”, and considering that one of the workshops to be held within the framework of the Congress will focus on strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to evolving forms of crime such as cybercrime and trafficking in cultural property, including lessons learned and international cooperation,

Reiterating the significance of cultural property as part of the common heritage of humankind and as unique and important testimony of the culture and identity of peoples and the necessity of protecting cultural property, and reaffirming in that regard the need to strengthen international cooperation in preventing, prosecuting and punishing all aspects of trafficking in cultural property,

Recognizing that, in its resolution 66/180, it requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, in consultation with Member States and in close cooperation, as appropriate, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, INTERPOL and other competent international organizations, to further explore the development of specific guidelines for crime prevention and criminal justice responses with respect to trafficking in cultural property,

Recognizing also that, in its resolution 68/186, it welcomed the progress made in exploring the development of non-binding guidelines on crime prevention and criminal justice responses with respect to trafficking in cultural property, stressed the need for their expeditious finalization, bearing in mind the importance of the matter for all Member States, and requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to reconvene the expert group on protection against trafficking in cultural property for Member States to review and revise the draft guidelines, with a view to finalizing and submitting the draft guidelines to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-third session,

Recognizing further that the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Re-

spect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences, contained in the annex to the present resolution, can be considered by Member States in the development and strengthening of their policies, strategies, legislation and cooperation mechanisms to prevent and combat trafficking in cultural property and related offences in all situations,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the meeting of the expert group on protection against trafficking in cultural property held in Vienna from 15 to 17 January 2014 to finalize the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences;

2. *Adopts* the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences, contained in the annex to the present resolution, and underlines that the Guidelines represent a useful framework to guide Member States in the development and strengthening of their criminal justice policies, strategies, legislation and cooperation mechanisms in the area of protection against trafficking in cultural property and other related offences;

3. *Strongly encourages* Member States to apply the Guidelines to the maximum extent possible, where appropriate, in view of strengthening international cooperation in this field;

4. *Encourages* Member States to undertake efforts to overcome practical difficulties in the implementation of the Guidelines in their constant endeavour to combat trafficking in cultural property, in all situations and on the basis of common and shared responsibility;

5. *Strongly encourages* Member States to evaluate and review their legislation and legal principles, procedures, policies, programmes and practices related to crime prevention and criminal justice matters, in a manner consistent with their legal systems and drawing upon the Guidelines, in order to ensure their adequacy for preventing and combating trafficking in cultural property and related offences;

6. *Invites* Member States and other relevant stakeholders attending the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to discuss good practices and challenges in promoting international cooperation to combat trafficking in cultural property under workshop 3 (Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to evolving forms of crime such as cybercrime and trafficking in cultural property, including lessons learned and international cooperation);

7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide advisory services and technical assistance to Member States, upon request, in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice responses with respect to trafficking in cultural property and other related offences, in cooperation with relevant international organizations and making use of the work of the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, as appropriate;

8. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to make the Guidelines widely available, including through the development of relevant tools, such as handbooks and training manuals;

9. *Further requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, where appropriate, in consultation

with Member States, to develop a practical assistance tool to assist in the implementation of the Guidelines, taking into consideration the technical background document developed for the elaboration of the Guidelines and the comments made by Member States;

10. *Invites* Member States to use all relevant tools developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, including the Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws against Organized Crime knowledge management portal and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws, and also invites Member States to provide to the Secretariat legislation and case law related to trafficking in cultural property, for inclusion in the portal;

11. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

ANNEX

International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences

Introduction

1. The International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences have been developed in recognition of the criminal character of such offences and their devastating consequences for the cultural heritage of humankind. Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 66/180 and 68/186 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/19, draft guidelines were developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in consultation with Member States and in close cooperation, as appropriate, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and other competent international organizations.

2. The first draft of the guidelines was reviewed at an informal expert group meeting, held from 21 to 23 November 2011, composed of 20 experts from around the world with expertise in various fields related to the subject matter of the guidelines, including representatives of INTERPOL, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law. Based on the valuable comments and advice on improving the draft, a second draft was presented to and discussed by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on protection against trafficking in cultural property at its second meeting, held from 27 to 29 June 2012. Taking into account a compendium, prepared by the Secretariat, of comments made by Member States on the draft guidelines, the expert group reviewed and revised the guidelines at its third meeting, held from 15 to 17 January 2014, with a view to their finalization.

3. The Guidelines are based on crime prevention and criminal justice aspects of protection against trafficking in

cultural property, taking into consideration a review of current practices and initiatives in several countries in addressing the problem of trafficking in cultural property, as well as principles and norms arising from the analysis of the following international legal instruments: the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; the United Nations Convention against Corruption; the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its First and Second Protocols; the Protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the protection of victims of international armed conflicts; the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property; the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects adopted by the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law; and the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage.

4. The present set of non-binding guidelines is available to Member States for their consideration in the development and strengthening of crime prevention and criminal justice policies, strategies, legislation and cooperation mechanisms to prevent and combat trafficking in cultural property and related offences in all situations. Their development follows the expression, by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in their resolutions, of alarm at the growing involvement of organized criminal groups in all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and of the need to promote international cooperation to combat crime in a concerted manner.

5. The Guidelines have the purpose of serving as a reference for national policymakers and as a tool for capacity-building in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice responses to trafficking in cultural property and related offences, in coordination with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other competent international organizations, as appropriate. On the basis of the guidelines finalized by the intergovernmental expert group and submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and taking into consideration the technical background document containing the version of the guidelines dated April 2012, and the comments made by Member States, the Commission may ask the Secretariat to develop a practical assistance tool, as appropriate, to aid in the implementation of the Guidelines.

6. The Guidelines contain four chapters:

(a) Chapter I contains guidelines on crime prevention strategies (including information and data collection, the role of cultural institutions and the private sector, the monitoring of the cultural property market, imports and exports, and archaeological sites, as well as education and public awareness);

(b) Chapter II contains guidelines on criminal justice policies (including adherence to and implementation of relevant international treaties, the criminalization of specific harmful conduct or the establishment of administrative offences, corporate liability, seizure and confiscation and investigative measures);

(c) Chapter III contains guidelines on international cooperation (including matters related to jurisdictional basis, extradition, seizure and confiscation, and cooperation among law enforcement and investigating authorities, as well as the return, restitution or repatriation of cultural property);

(d) Chapter IV contains a guideline on the scope of application of the Guidelines.

I

Prevention strategies

A. Information and data collection

Guideline 1. States should consider establishing and developing inventories or databases, as appropriate, of cultural property for the purpose of protection against its trafficking. The absence of registration of cultural property in such inventories shall by no means exclude it from protection against trafficking and related offences.

Guideline 2. States should consider, where possible under their national legislation, the relevant cultural property as registered in the official inventory of a State that has enacted laws on national or State ownership, provided that the owner State has issued a public formal statement to that effect.

Guideline 3. States should consider:

(a) Introducing or improving statistics on import and export of cultural property;

(b) Introducing or improving statistics, where practical, on administrative and criminal offences against cultural property;

(c) Establishing or improving national databases, as appropriate, on trafficking in cultural property and related offences and on trafficked, illicitly exported or imported, stolen, looted, illicitly excavated or illicitly traded or missing cultural property;

(d) Introducing mechanisms to enable the reporting of suspicious dealings or sales on the Internet;

(e) Contributing to international data collection on trafficking in cultural property and related offences through the United Nations Survey on Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems, conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the INTERPOL database on stolen works of art and through other relevant organizations;

(f) Contributing to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization database of national laws and regulations pertaining to cultural property.

Guideline 4. States should consider, as appropriate, establishing a central national authority or empowering an existing authority and/or enacting other mechanisms for coordinating the activities related to the protection of cultural property against trafficking and related offences.

B. The role of cultural institutions and the private sector

Guideline 5. States should consider encouraging cultural institutions and the private sector to adopt codes of conduct and to disseminate best practices on policies on the acquisition of cultural property.

Guideline 6. States should encourage cultural institutions and the private sector to report suspected trafficking in cultural property cases to law enforcement authorities.

Guideline 7. States should consider promoting and supporting training on cultural property regulations for cultural institutions and the private sector, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, including rules on the acquisition of cultural property.

Guideline 8. States should encourage, as appropriate, Internet providers and web-based auctioneers and vendors to cooperate in preventing trafficking in cultural property, including through the adoption of specific codes of conduct.

C. Monitoring

Guideline 9. States should consider, in accordance with the relevant international instruments, introducing and implementing appropriate import and export control procedures, such as certificates for the export and import of cultural property.

Guideline 10. States should consider creating and implementing monitoring measures for the market of cultural property, including for the Internet.

Guideline 11. States should, where possible, create and implement programmes for research, mapping and surveillance of archaeological sites for the purpose of protecting them against pillage, clandestine excavation and trafficking.

D. Education and public awareness

Guideline 12. States should consider supporting and promoting public awareness campaigns, including through the media, to foster among the general public a culture of concern about trafficking in cultural property, for the purpose of protecting that cultural property against pillage and trafficking.

II

Criminal justice policies

A. International legal texts

Guideline 13. States should consider adopting legislation criminalizing trafficking in cultural property and related offences in accordance with applicable existing international instruments, in particular the Organized Crime Convention, relating to trafficking in cultural property and related offences.

Guideline 14. In bilateral cooperation, States may consider making use of the model treaty for the prevention of crimes that infringe on the cultural heritage of peoples in the form of movable property.

B. Criminal and administrative offences

Guideline 15. States should consider defining the concept of “cultural property”, including movable and immovable cultural property, when necessary, for the purposes of criminal law.

Guideline 16. States should consider criminalizing, as serious offences, acts such as:

- (a) Trafficking in cultural property;
- (b) Illicit export and illicit import of cultural property;
- (c) Theft of cultural property (or consider elevating the offence of ordinary theft to a serious offence when it involves cultural property);
- (d) Looting of archaeological and cultural sites and/or illicit excavation;
- (e) Conspiracy or participation in an organized criminal group for trafficking in cultural property and related offences;
- (f) Laundering, as referred to in article 6 of the Organized Crime Convention, of trafficked cultural property.

Guideline 17. States should consider introducing in their criminal legislation other offences, such as damag-

ing or vandalizing cultural property or acquiring, with conscious avoidance of the legal status, trafficked cultural property, when such offences are related to trafficking in cultural property.

Guideline 18. States should consider introducing obligations, as appropriate, to report suspected cases of trafficking of and related offences against cultural property and to report the discovery of archaeological sites, archaeological finds or other objects of relevant cultural interest, and, for those States that have done so, to criminalize the failure to meet those obligations.

Guideline 19. States should consider making it possible, in a way not contradictory to their fundamental legal principles, to infer a perpetrator’s knowledge that an object has been reported as trafficked, illicitly exported or imported, stolen, looted, illicitly excavated or illicitly traded, on the basis of objective factual circumstances, including when the cultural property is registered as such in a publicly accessible database.

C. Criminal and administrative sanctions

Guideline 20. States should consider providing proportionate, effective and dissuasive sanctions for the above-mentioned criminal offences.

Guideline 21. States may consider adopting custodial sanctions for some selected criminal offences so as to meet the standard, required under article 2 (b) of the Organized Crime Convention, for “serious crime”.

Guideline 22. States should consider the adoption of bans and disqualifications, and the revocation of licences, as complementary criminal or administrative sanctions whenever possible.

D. Corporate liability

Guideline 23. States should consider introducing or extending liability (criminal, administrative or civil in nature) of corporations or legal persons for the above-mentioned offences.

Guideline 24. States should consider introducing proportionate, effective and dissuasive sanctions for corporate offences of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, including fines, bans or disqualifications, revocation of licences and revocation of benefits, including tax exemptions or government subsidies, where possible.

E. Seizure and confiscation

Guideline 25. States should consider introducing criminal investigation and the search, seizure and confiscation of trafficked cultural property, as well as the proceeds of crimes related to such trafficking, and ensure its return, restitution or repatriation.

Guideline 26. States should consider, in a way not contradictory to their fundamental legal principles, the possibility of requiring that the alleged offender, the owner or the holder (if different) demonstrate the lawful origin of cultural property liable to seizure or confiscation for trafficking or related offences.

Guideline 27. States should consider introducing confiscation of the proceeds of the offence or of property of a value equivalent to such proceeds.

Guideline 28. States may consider using confiscated economic assets for financing expenses for recovery and other prevention measures.

F. Investigations

Guideline 29. States should consider creating specialized law enforcement bodies or units, as well as providing specialized training for customs officials, law enforcement personnel and public prosecutors, with regard to trafficking in cultural property and related offences.

Guideline 30. States should consider enhancing co-ordination, at both the national and international levels, among law enforcement bodies in order to increase the probability of discovering and successfully investigating trafficking in cultural property and related offences.

Guideline 31. States may consider, in the investigation of the above-mentioned offences, especially if related to organized crime, allowing for the appropriate use by their competent authorities of controlled delivery and other special investigative techniques, such as electronic or other forms of surveillance and undercover operations, within their territory, and allowing for the admissibility in court of evidence derived therefrom.

III

Cooperation

A. Jurisdiction

Guideline 32. States should consider establishing their jurisdiction over the above-mentioned criminal offences when such offences are committed within their territory or when committed outside their territory by one of their nationals, in a manner consistent with the principles of sovereign equality, the territorial integrity of States and non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other States, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Organized Crime Convention.

B. Judicial cooperation in criminal matters

Guideline 33. States that have not yet done so should consider becoming parties to existing international law instruments, in particular the Organized Crime Convention, and use them as a basis for international cooperation in criminal matters in respect of trafficking in cultural property and related offences.

Guideline 34. States should consider providing each other with the widest possible mutual legal assistance in investigations, prosecutions and judicial proceedings in relation to the above-mentioned offences, also in order to enhance the effectiveness and speed of the procedures.

Guideline 35. States should contribute to and regularly update the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws and any other relevant database.

C. Extradition

Guideline 36. States should consider making the crimes against cultural property enumerated in guideline 16 extraditable offences. In the context of extradition procedures, States should also consider adopting and applying, where possible, provisional measures to preserve the cultural property related to the alleged offence for the purpose of restitution.

Guideline 37. States should consider enhancing the effectiveness and speed of extradition for trafficking in cultural property and related offences, where such offences are considered extraditable.

Guideline 38. States should consider, in the case of refusal of extradition only on the basis of nationality, submitting the case, when requested by the State that had sought extradition, to the competent authority in order to consider prosecution.

D. International cooperation for purposes of seizure and confiscation

Guideline 39. States should consider cooperating in identifying, tracing, seizing and confiscating trafficked, illicitly exported or imported, stolen, looted, illicitly excavated, illicitly traded or missing cultural property.

Guideline 40. States may consider putting in place mechanisms to enable the contribution of confiscated financial assets to international or intergovernmental bodies concerned with the fight against transnational organized crime, including trafficking in cultural property and related offences.

E. International cooperation among law enforcement and investigating authorities

Guideline 41. States should consider enhancing the exchange of information on trafficking in cultural property and related offences by sharing or interconnecting inventories of cultural property and databases on trafficked, illicitly exported or imported, stolen, looted, illicitly excavated, illicitly traded or missing cultural property, and/or contributing to international ones.

Guideline 42. States should consider, where appropriate, in the framework of international judicial cooperation, enhancing the exchange of information on previous convictions and ongoing investigations relating to trafficking in cultural property and related offences.

Guideline 43. States should consider concluding bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements in order to establish joint investigative teams for trafficking in cultural property and related offences.

Guideline 44. States should consider assisting each other in planning and implementing specialized training programmes for law enforcement personnel.

Guideline 45. States should consider enhancing or establishing privileged channels of communication between their law enforcement agencies.

F. Return, restitution or repatriation

Guideline 46. States should consider, in order to enhance international cooperation in criminal matters, undertaking appropriate measures to recover trafficked, illicitly exported or imported, stolen, looted, illicitly excavated or illicitly traded cultural property for the purpose of their return, restitution or repatriation.

Guideline 47. States should consider pondering, procedurally, as appropriate, the owner State's provisions on national or State ownership in order to facilitate the return, restitution or repatriation of public cultural property.

IV

Scope of application

Guideline 48. States should consider applying the Guidelines in any situations, including exceptional circumstances, that foster trafficking in cultural property and related offences, in the framework of the above-mentioned conventions and other relevant international instruments.

Economic fraud and identity-related crime

A March report [E/CN.15/2014/17] of the Secretary-General reviewed the efforts of Member States to implement Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/39 [YUN 2013, p. 1229] and domestic policies and measures in the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of economic fraud and identity-related crime. It also provided information on the work of UNODC to raise awareness about identity-related crime and the appropriate responses to it, and on activities planned by UNODC towards enhancing State capacity to prevent and combat identity-related crime. The Secretary-General recommended that CCPCJ take into account the information provided by Member States on national efforts to investigate, prosecute and punish economic fraud and identity-related crime; and encourage the core group of experts on identity-related crime to take that information into consideration when discussing elements of a multidisciplinary approach to preventing and combating such crime. The Commission should also consider the future work of the Secretariat on identity-related crime and, in doing so, focus on planned UNODC activities and provide more effective and efficient technical assistance to requesting Member States. Particular attention should be devoted to the field of identity-related crime in the preparatory phase for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

Trafficking in forest products

Commission action. On 16 May [E/2014/30 (res. 23/1)], the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice encouraged Member States to make illicit trafficking in forest products, including timber, involving organized criminal groups, a serious crime; to undertake and promote bilateral, regional, subregional and international law enforcement cooperation to prevent and counter that trafficking, thereby promoting the sustainable management and conservation of forests; and to develop and implement domestic and regional policies aimed at countering the illicit trafficking of forest products. Member States were further encouraged to strengthen domestic legal frameworks and law enforcement and judicial capacity to tackle trafficking in forest products; to adopt effective measures to combat such trafficking, including criminal laws and deterrent penalties; and to take advantage of the international cooperation provisions of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the UN Convention against Corruption and become parties to those Conventions. The Commission invited UNODC to work with Member States and other UN bodies to identify good practices in criminal law related to illicit trafficking in forest products, promote forest law enforcement and governance, provide technical assistance and promote the development of tools and technologies, and undertake

research focused on the organized criminal networks involved. CCPCJ invited States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions and requested the UNODC Executive Director to report to the Commission's twenty-fifth (2015) session.

Integration and coordination

International cooperation in criminal matters

Thematic discussion. Pursuant to Commission decision 18/1 [YUN 2009, p. 1082], the Secretariat submitted a February note [E/CN.15/2014/12] as a guide for the thematic discussion of the Commission's twenty-third (2014) session. In accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2010/243 [YUN 2010, p. 1101], the prominent theme for the session was international cooperation in criminal matters. The note provided background information and a series of questions on the topics proposed for discussion by the Commission. Issues presented in the note included how to manage international cooperation in multiple legal proceedings where the same individual was involved; implementing international instruments containing provisions on international cooperation in criminal matters; learning from experiences at the regional level; international cooperation in combating new and emerging forms of crime; the provision of technical assistance; and specific modalities of international cooperation in criminal matters, such as extradition and mutual legal assistance and international cooperation for the purposes of confiscation. In considering action to address challenges in the promotion of international cooperation in criminal matters, the note suggested that the Commission focus on ways and means to avoid fragmented solutions and ensure the proper administration of justice. It could also assess the advantages and practical consequences of a flexible approach that rendered the different modalities of international cooperation complementary to each other.

The thematic discussion took place on 13–14 May [E/2014/30]. Participants noted that the globalization of criminal activity, including through offences that engaged multiple jurisdictions, had created a need for strengthened forms and models of international cooperation. Existing treaties and mechanisms should be used, and the implementation of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the UN Convention against Corruption should be improved at the national level. In addition to extradition and mutual legal assistance, the utility of other forms of cooperation, including the execution of foreign sentences, the transfer of sentenced persons, temporary surrender and joint investigations, was highlighted. To strengthen the effectiveness of international cooperation, participants emphasized the importance of technical assistance and capacity-building

for central authorities and prosecutors, including on new and emerging forms of crime. They highlighted the importance of coordination among relevant authorities at the national level, and of cooperation platforms and networks of prosecutors at the regional and subregional levels. They also emphasized the need for effective international cooperation on requests related to cybercrime and digital evidence, as well as in cases of money-laundering and for the confiscation of criminal assets.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 16 July [meeting 45], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2014/30], adopted **resolution 2014/17** without vote [agenda item 17 (c)].

International cooperation in criminal matters

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

[For text, see General Assembly resolution 69/193 below.]

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 18 December [meeting 73], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/69/489], adopted **resolution 69/193** without vote [agenda item 105].

International cooperation in criminal matters

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as well as the international counter-terrorism conventions and protocols,

Conscious of the need to respect human dignity and to give effect to the rights conferred upon every person involved in criminal proceedings, in accordance with applicable international human rights instruments,

Concerned that transnational organized crime has diversified globally and represents a threat to health and safety and to the sustainable development of Member States,

Convinced that transnational organized crime, including in its new and emerging forms, creates significant challenges for Member States and that effective responses depend on strengthened international cooperation in criminal matters,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthened and collaborative efforts by all Member States to ensure the creation and promotion of strategies and mechanisms in all areas of international cooperation, especially in extradition, mutual legal assistance, transfer of sentenced persons and the confiscation of proceeds of crime,

Convinced that the establishment of bilateral and multilateral arrangements for mutual assistance in criminal matters can contribute to the development of more effective international cooperation to combat transnational crime,

Bearing in mind that the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice provide important tools for the development of international cooperation,

Recalling its resolutions 45/117 of 14 December 1990 on the Model Treaty on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and 53/112 of 9 December 1998 on mutual assistance and international cooperation in criminal matters,

Recalling also its resolutions 45/116 of 14 December 1990 on the Model Treaty on Extradition and 52/88 of 12 December 1997 on international cooperation in criminal matters,

Recalling further its resolution 45/118 of 14 December 1990 on the Model Treaty on the Transfer of Proceedings in Criminal Matters,

Recalling the Model Bilateral Agreement on the Sharing of Confiscated Proceeds of Crime or Property,

Recalling also the adoption by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders of the Model Agreement on the Transfer of Foreign Prisoners and the recommendations on the treatment of foreign prisoners,

Taking into consideration the establishment of regional networks, including those established with the assistance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, such as the Central American Network of Prosecutors against Organized Crime and the Network of West African Central Authorities and Prosecutors against Organized Crime, whose prime objective is to strengthen regional and international cooperation in criminal matters, facilitating cooperation in ongoing cases and the delivery of related legal and technical assistance,

Noting with satisfaction the contributions of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice in promoting international cooperation by facilitating, inter alia, the exchange of experience in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

1. *Encourages* Member States to promote and strengthen international cooperation to further develop the capacities of criminal justice systems, including through efforts to modernize and strengthen relevant legislation related to international cooperation in criminal matters, and the use of modern technology to overcome problems that hinder cooperation in a number of areas, such as witness testimony by videoconference, where applicable, and the exchange of digital evidence;

2. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the international counter-terrorism conventions and protocols, and calls upon Member States, where necessary, to incorporate the provisions of those instruments into their national legislation;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to apply the principle of “extradite or prosecute” contained in bilateral and regional agreements, as well as in the 1988 Convention, the Or-

ganized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto, the Convention against Corruption and the international counter-terrorism conventions and protocols;

4. *Encourages* Member States, in accordance with their national laws, to afford one another, where feasible, mutual legal assistance in civil and administrative proceedings in relation to the offences for which cooperation is afforded, including in accordance with article 43, paragraph 1, of the Convention against Corruption;

5. *Invites* Member States to conclude bilateral and regional agreements or arrangements on international cooperation in criminal matters, and in doing so to take into account the relevant provisions under the Convention against Corruption, the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto and the 1988 Convention;

6. *Encourages* Member States, relevant international organizations and institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network to strengthen cooperation and partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which serves as the secretariat to the Convention against Corruption, the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto and the 1988 Convention;

7. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to designate central authorities responsible for mutual legal assistance requests in accordance with article 18, paragraph 13, of the Organized Crime Convention, article 46, paragraph 13, of the Convention against Corruption and article 7, paragraph 8, of the 1988 Convention;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, in order to enhance the capacity of experts and staff of central authorities to effectively and expeditiously deal with mutual legal assistance requests;

9. *Commends* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for its development of technical assistance tools to facilitate international cooperation in criminal matters, and invites Member States in appropriate cases to avail themselves of those tools;

10. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to support central authorities in strengthening communication channels and, as appropriate, in exchanging information at both the regional and the international levels, for the purposes of enhancing the effectiveness of cooperation in criminal matters in all its aspects, especially in dealing with requests for mutual legal assistance;

11. *Encourages* Member States to ensure, where possible, that administrative procedures facilitate cooperation in criminal matters relating to the offences falling within the scope of the Organized Crime Convention, the Convention against Corruption, the 1988 Convention and the international counter-terrorism conventions and protocols, in accordance with national legislation;

12. *Also encourages* Member States to review their national policies, legislation and practices with regard to mutual legal assistance, extradition, confiscation of the proceeds of crime, the transfer of sentenced persons and other forms of international cooperation in criminal matters for the purpose of simplifying and enhancing cooperation among Member States;

13. *Further encourages* Member States to give due consideration to the humanitarian and social dimensions of the

transfer of sentenced persons, where legislation provides for such transfer, for the purpose of achieving the greatest possible cooperation in the transfer of foreign prisoners so that they serve the rest of their sentence in their own countries;

14. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination and cooperation with Member States, to collect and disseminate information about the national legal requirements of Member States concerning international cooperation in criminal matters for the purpose of enhancing the knowledge and strengthening the capacity of practitioners so that they can better understand different legal systems and their requirements with regard to international cooperation while avoiding duplication of the work done in the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

15. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to support the establishment and functioning of regional networks of central authorities responsible for dealing with mutual legal assistance requests, so as to contribute to the exchange of experiences and strengthen knowledge-based expertise in the area of international cooperation in criminal matters and to help to establish international networks and partnerships among Member States;

16. *Invites* Member States to provide input to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime concerning the model treaties on international cooperation in criminal matters, in particular addressing the question of the necessity of updating or revising them and the prioritization of such updating or revising;

17. *Also invites* Member States, during the consideration of the agenda item of the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to provide their views regarding the updating or revising mentioned in paragraph 16 above;

18. *Recommends* that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its twenty-fourth session, take into account the input received from Member States and consider initiating a review of particular model treaties on international cooperation in criminal matters;

19. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes of the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Strengthening technical cooperation

Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 64/293 [YUN 2010, p. 1111], 68/187 [YUN 2013, p. 1252], 68/188 [ibid., p. 1243], 68/192 [ibid., p. 1249], 68/193 [ibid., p. 1231] and 68/195 [ibid., p. 1240], the Secretary-General, in June, submitted a report [A/69/94] on implementation of the mandates of the UN crime prevention and criminal justice programme, with particular reference to the technical cooperation activities of UNODC. The report reviewed efforts undertaken by UNODC to support Member States in combating transnational organized crime; countering trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants; and strengthening measures against trafficking in firearms. It included a section on preventing and combating corrupt practices and

the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the UN Convention against Corruption. The report provided information on progress made in the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and in the implementation by the UN system of the UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons [YUN 2010, p. 1111]. It also contained information on the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the UN development agenda beyond 2015, and on technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism. Further sections discussed technical cooperation activities in the forensic field; on data collection, research and trend analysis; and on a number of emerging policy issues. The Secretary-General concluded with recommendations aimed at enhancing the UN crime prevention and criminal justice programme.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 18 December [meeting 73], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/69/489], adopted **resolution 69/197** without vote [agenda item 105].

Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 46/152 of 18 December 1991, 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 67/1 of 19 September 2012, 67/186, 67/189, 67/190 and 67/192 of 20 December 2012, 68/119 of 16 December 2013 and 68/185, 68/188, 68/189, 68/192 and 68/193 of 18 December 2013,

Reaffirming also its resolutions relating to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and all the international conventions and protocols against terrorism,

Reaffirming further the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session,

Recalling the commitments undertaken by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adopted on 8 September 2006 and its successive biennial reviews,

Recalling also the importance of the measures to eliminate international terrorism adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/119 and the adoption, on 18 December 2013, of resolution 68/178 on the protection of

human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism,

Reaffirming its resolutions addressing various aspects of violence against women and girls of all ages,

Recalling the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council addressing various aspects of violence against women and girls of all ages,

Recalling also the agreed conclusions of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which addressed the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls, and reiterating the importance of crime prevention and criminal justice measures for the protection of women and girls,

Noting the significance of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as a way to assist countries in strengthening their national crime prevention and criminal justice capacities to respond to all forms of violence against women and girls,

Reiterating its condemnation of all forms of violence against women and girls, and expressing deep concern about gender-related killing of women and girls,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, including resolution 68/191 of 18 December 2013, on taking action against gender-related killing of women and girls, and recognizing the key role of the criminal justice system in preventing and responding to gender-related killing of women and girls, including by ending impunity for such crimes,

Emphasizing the relevance of international instruments and United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice related to the treatment of prisoners, in particular women and juveniles,

Recalling its resolution 65/229 of 21 December 2010 on the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), and in this regard encouraging the efforts of Member States to implement the Bangkok Rules,

Recalling also its resolution 68/190 of 18 December 2013, concerning the updating of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, and noting the progress made during the third meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, held in Vienna from 25 to 28 March 2014,

Recalling further its resolution 68/156 of 18 December 2013, in which it reaffirmed that no one shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Recalling its resolution 67/184 of 20 December 2012 on the follow-up to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015, dedicated to “Integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and public participation”, and noting the progress made thus far in the preparation of that Congress,

Recalling also its resolution 66/177 of 19 December 2011 on strengthening international cooperation in combating the harmful effects of illicit financial flows resulting from

criminal activities, in which it urged States parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption to apply fully the provisions of those Conventions, in particular measures to prevent and combat money-laundering, including by criminalizing the laundering of proceeds of transnational organized crime and corruption, as well as measures to enhance national confiscation regimes and international cooperation, including in asset recovery,

Taking into consideration all relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions, in particular all those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation, including resolution 2014/23 of 16 July 2014 on strengthening international cooperation in addressing the smuggling of migrants, as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance,

Concerned at the growing involvement of organized criminal groups in all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences,

Recalling its resolutions 66/180 of 19 December 2011 on strengthening the response to trafficking in cultural property, and 67/80 of 12 December 2012 on the return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin, in which it urged Member States and relevant institutions to reinforce and fully implement mechanisms to strengthen international cooperation, including mutual legal assistance, in order to combat all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, such as the theft, looting, damage, removal, pillage and destruction of such property, and to facilitate the recovery and the return of stolen and looted cultural property, and its resolution 68/186 of 18 December 2013 on strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to protect cultural property, especially with regard to its trafficking,

Underlining the importance of the further progress made in this field, and welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences through Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/20 of 16 July 2014 as recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-third session, and the establishment of a technical background document to assist in the implementation of the Guidelines through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which will support the implementation of resolutions 67/80, 68/186 and 69/196 of 18 December 2014 and facilitate operational cooperation against all forms of trafficking in cultural property, as well as the request to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide practical assistance in the implementation of the Guidelines and to facilitate cooperation in this area,

Reaffirming the need for promoting increased ratification or accession to and full and effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress

and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, recalling in this regard all relevant resolutions, including resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010 on the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons and resolution 68/192 of 18 December 2013 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons, and welcoming the work of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,

Underlining that, although the crime of smuggling of migrants may share, in some cases, some common features with the crime of trafficking in persons, Member States need to recognize that they are distinct crimes and require separate and complementary legal, operational and policy responses, and recalling further its resolution 68/179 of 18 December 2013, in which it called upon all Member States to protect and assist migrants, and Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/23, recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-third session,

Recalling Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 22/7 on strengthening international cooperation to combat cybercrime and 22/8 on promoting technical assistance and capacity-building to strengthen national measures and international cooperation against cybercrime, both of 26 April 2013,

Concerned at the growing trend of cybercrime and the misuse of information and telecommunications technologies in multiple forms of crime,

Noting the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations system task force on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking for the purpose of developing an effective and comprehensive approach to transnational organized crime and drug trafficking within the United Nations system, and reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in this regard, as reflected in the Charter of the United Nations,

Expressing its grave concern about the negative effects of transnational organized crime, including smuggling of and trafficking in persons, narcotic drugs and small arms and light weapons, as well as illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, on development, peace, stability and security and human rights, and at the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime,

Convinced that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through crime prevention and criminal justice mechanisms, is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth and sustainable development and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, all of which in turn reinforce the rule of law,

Stressing the importance of strengthened international cooperation, based on the principles of shared responsibility and in accordance with international law, to dismantle illicit networks and counter the world drug problem and transnational organized crime, including money-laundering, trafficking in persons, trafficking in arms and other forms of organized crime, all of which threaten national security and undermine sustainable development and the rule of law,

Concerned by the serious challenges and threats posed by trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and concerned also about its links with terrorism and other forms of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking,

Noting international efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms, in particular in small arms and light weapons, as demonstrated by the adoption in 2001 of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and the entry into force in 2005 of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the forthcoming entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty on 24 December 2014,

Noting with appreciation the activities carried out, upon request, by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, through its Global Firearms Programme, in the areas of legislative and technical assistance, capacity-building, awareness-raising and research and analysis,

Expressing concern at the use of information and telecommunications technologies to abuse and exploit children,

Convinced of the importance of preventing youth crime, supporting the rehabilitation of young offenders and their reintegration into society, protecting child victims and witnesses, including efforts to prevent their revictimization, and addressing the needs of children of prisoners, and stressing that such responses should take into account the human rights and best interests of children and young people, as called for in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto, where applicable, and in other relevant United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice, where appropriate,

Concerned about the growing degree of penetration of criminal organizations and their financial and economic resources into the economy,

Expressing concern at the involvement of organized criminal groups, as well as the substantial increase in the volume, rate of transnational occurrence and range of criminal offences related to trafficking in precious metals and stones in some parts of the world and the potential use of trafficking in precious metals and stones as a source of funding for organized crime, other relevant criminal activities and terrorism,

Deeply concerned about the connections, in some cases, between some forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and emphasizing the need to enhance cooperation at the national, subregional, regional and international levels in order to strengthen responses to this evolving challenge,

Recognizing that countering transnational organized crime and terrorism is a common and shared responsibility, and stressing the need to work collectively to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Emphasizing that transnational organized crime must be addressed with full respect for the principle of the sovereignty of States and in accordance with the rule of law as part of a comprehensive response to promote durable solutions through the promotion of human rights and more equitable socioeconomic conditions,

Expressing deep concern about environmental crimes, including trafficking in endangered and, where applicable, protected species of wild fauna and flora, and emphasizing the need to combat such crimes by strengthening international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts,

Emphasizing that coordinated action is critical to eliminate, prevent and combat corruption and disrupt the illicit networks that drive and enable trafficking in wildlife and forest products, including timber and timber products,

Encouraging Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive crime prevention policies, national and local strategies and action plans based on an understanding of the multiple factors that contribute to crime and to address such factors in a holistic manner, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society,

Stressing that social development should be an integral element of strategies to foster crime prevention and economic development in all States,

Recognizing the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime between all relevant priorities identified by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies,

Recognizing also that, thanks to their broad membership and wide scope of application, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption offer an important basis for international cooperation, inter alia, for extradition, mutual legal assistance and confiscation and asset recovery, and provide an effective mechanism that should be further utilized and implemented,

Mindful of the need to ensure universal adherence to and full implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, and urging States parties to make full and effective use of these instruments,

Noting the important contribution that public-private sector cooperation can make in efforts to prevent and combat criminal activities, such as transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism, in the tourism sector,

Recognizing the universal importance of good governance and the fight against corruption, and calling for zero tolerance for corruption in all its forms, including bribery, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of economic crime,

Recalling the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, and recognizing the need to continue to promote ratification of or accession to the Convention and its full implementation,

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of a regional approach to programming, based on continuing consultations and partnerships at the national and regional levels, particularly on its implementation, and focused on ensuring that the Office responds in a sustainable and coherent manner to the priorities of Member States,

Recognizing the general progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice reform,

corruption, organized crime, money-laundering, terrorism, kidnapping, smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, as well as drug trafficking and international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance and the international transfer of sentenced persons,

Reiterating its concern regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to resolutions 64/293, 68/187, 68/188, 68/192, 68/193 and 68/195;

2. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto represent the most important tools of the international community for fighting transnational organized crime;

3. *Notes with appreciation* that the number of States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime has reached 183, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating transnational organized crime;

4. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and urges States parties to those conventions and protocols to make efforts towards their full implementation;

5. *Recalls* article 32 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and General Assembly resolution 68/193, in which, inter alia, the need for the establishment of a mechanism to review the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto by States parties was reiterated, and underlines that the review of the implementation of the Convention is an ongoing and gradual process and that it is necessary to explore all options regarding the establishment of a mechanism to assist the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and invites Member States to continue the dialogue in this regard;

6. *Notes* the progress made during the third meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, held in Vienna from 25 to 28 March 2014, and requests Member States to support the process of revision of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners in line with General Assembly resolution 65/230 of 21 December 2010, and to strengthen all efforts to address the issue of prison overcrowding;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group to conduct a comprehensive study of the problem of cybercrime and responses to it by Member States, the international community and the private sector, including the exchange of information on national legislation, best practices, technical assistance and

international cooperation, with a view to examining options to strengthen existing and to propose new national and international, legal or other responses to cybercrime, and encourages the expert group to enhance its efforts to complete its work and to present the outcome of the study to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in due course;

8. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices;

9. *Urges* Member States to be represented at the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at the highest possible level, and encourages States to continue their preparations for the Congress with a view to making focused and productive contributions to the discussions and to promoting the participation of United Nations organs and related agencies, other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, as well as individual experts and consultants, in accordance with relevant resolutions and rules of procedure;

10. *Underscores* that respect for and promotion of crime prevention and criminal justice as well as of the rule of law should be given due consideration in relation to the post-2015 development agenda;

11. *Recommends* that Member States, as appropriate to their national contexts, adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on baseline assessments and data collection and focusing on all sectors of the justice system, and develop crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes, including ones that focus on early prevention by using multidisciplinary and participatory approaches, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States for this purpose;

12. *Encourages* all States to have national and local action plans for crime prevention in order to take into account, in a comprehensive, integrated and participatory manner, inter alia, factors that place certain populations and places at higher risk of victimization and/or of offending and to ensure that such plans are based on the best available evidence and good practices, stresses that crime prevention should be considered an integral element of strategies to foster social and economic development in all States, and in this regard welcomes Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/21 of 16 July 2014 on strengthening social policies as a tool for crime prevention;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen their efforts to cooperate, as appropriate, at the bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international levels to counter transnational organized crime effectively;

14. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its efforts, within existing resources and

within its mandate, in providing technical assistance and advisory services for the implementation of its regional and subregional programmes in a coordinated manner with relevant Member States and regional and subregional organizations;

15. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, within its mandate, technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice, with a view to strengthening the capacity of national criminal justice systems to investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of crime, while protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of defendants, as well as the legitimate interests of victims and witnesses, and to ensure access to effective legal aid in criminal justice systems;

16. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts in combating cybercrime and all forms of criminal abuse of information and telecommunications technologies and to enhance international cooperation in this regard;

17. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting persons in vulnerable groups or situations, and in that regard expresses its concern about the increase in the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from crimes against migrants, especially women and children, without regard for dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international law;

18. *Calls upon* Member States to reinforce international cooperation for preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants and for the prosecution of smugglers, in accordance, as appropriate, with article 6 of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and with national laws and legislation, while effectively protecting the rights and respecting the dignity of smuggled migrants and internationally recognized principles of non-discrimination and other applicable obligations under relevant international law, taking into account the special needs of women, children, especially when unaccompanied, and persons with disabilities and older persons, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its technical assistance to Member States in accordance with the above-mentioned Protocol;

19. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that, in investigating and prosecuting the smuggling of migrants, the concurrent undertaking of financial investigations is considered, with a view to tracing, freezing and confiscating proceeds acquired through that crime, and to consider the smuggling of migrants to be a predicate offence of money-laundering;

20. *Emphasizes* the importance of preventing and combating all forms of trafficking in persons, and in this regard expresses its concern about the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from such crimes, including for the purpose of organ removal, and calls upon Member States to strengthen national efforts to combat all forms of trafficking in persons and to protect and assist the victims of trafficking in accordance with all relevant legal obligations and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector;

21. *Invites* Member States to strengthen the crime prevention and criminal justice response to the gender-related killing of women and girls, in particular measures

to support the capacity of Member States to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of such crime;

22. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide within its mandate technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism through the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, in accordance with United Nations-related instruments and international standards, including, where applicable, standards and relevant initiatives of regional, interregional and multilateral organizations and intergovernmental bodies against money-laundering, inter alia and as appropriate, the Financial Action Task Force, in accordance with national legislation;

23. *Urges* Member States to strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation to enable the return of assets illicitly acquired from corruption to the countries of origin, upon their request, in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption for asset recovery, in particular chapter V, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue to provide assistance to bilateral, regional and international efforts for that purpose, and also urges Member States to combat and penalize corruption, as well as the laundering of its proceeds;

24. *Welcomes* the progress achieved by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in the implementation of their respective mandates, and calls upon States parties to give full effect to the resolutions adopted by those bodies;

25. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to foster international and regional cooperation, including by facilitating the development of regional networks active in the field of legal and law enforcement cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime, where appropriate, and by promoting cooperation among all such networks, including by providing technical assistance where it is required, recognizing the efforts made by the Office to establish and assist such networks;

26. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and regional organizations that have transnational organized crime mandates, as appropriate, in order to share best practices, foster cooperation and take advantage of their unique and comparative advantage;

27. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in developing their abilities and strengthening their capacity to prevent and combat kidnapping, and requests the Office to continue to provide technical assistance with a view to fostering international cooperation, in particular mutual legal assistance, aimed at countering effectively this growing serious crime;

28. *Draws attention* to the emerging policy issues identified in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, with particular reference to the technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, namely, piracy, cybercrime, the use of new information technologies to

abuse and exploit children, trafficking in cultural property, illicit financial flows, environmental crime, including illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora, as well as identity-related crime, and invites the Office to explore, within its mandate, ways and means of addressing those issues, bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/12 of 26 July 2012 on the strategy for the period 2012–2015 for the Office;

29. *Invites* Member States and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue to strengthen the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable and comparable data and information, including, as appropriate, data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant criteria, and strongly encourages Member States to share such data and information with the Office;

30. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to develop, in close cooperation with Member States, technical and methodological tools and trend analyses and studies to enhance knowledge on crime trends and support Member States in designing appropriate responses in specific areas of crime, in particular in their transnational dimension, taking into account the need to make the best possible use of existing resources;

31. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations to develop national and regional strategies, as appropriate, and other necessary measures, in cooperation with the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, to address effectively transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, as well as corruption and terrorism;

32. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to assist Member States, upon request, in combating illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and to support them in their efforts to address the links with other forms of transnational organized crime, through, inter alia, legislative assistance, technical support and enhanced data collection and analysis;

33. *Encourages* Member States to enhance the effectiveness of countering criminal threats to the tourism sector, including terrorist threats through, when appropriate, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international organizations, in cooperation with the World Tourism Organization and the private sector;

34. *Urges* States parties to make effective use of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime for broad cooperation in preventing and combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, especially in returning such proceeds of crime or property to their legitimate owners, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 2, of the Convention, and invites States parties to exchange information on all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, in accordance with their national laws, and to coordinate administrative and other measures taken, as appropriate, for the prevention, early detection and punishment of such offences, also reaffirming in this regard the importance of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution

69/196, by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2014/20 and by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and other related documents adopted on this item by the Commission at its twenty-third session;

35. *Urges* Member States to introduce effective national and international measures to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, including publicizing legislation, international guidelines and related technical background documents, and offering special training for police, customs and border services, and to consider such trafficking a serious crime, as defined in the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

36. *Encourages* Member States to make trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora involving organized criminal groups a serious crime, as defined in article 2, paragraph (b), of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, in order to ensure that adequate and effective means of international cooperation can be afforded in the investigation and prosecution of those engaged in trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora;

37. *Strongly encourages* Member States to take appropriate measures, consistent with their domestic legislation and legal frameworks, to strengthen law enforcement and related efforts to combat individuals and groups, including organized criminal groups, operating within their borders, with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating international trafficking in wildlife, forest products, including timber, and other forest biological resources harvested in contravention of national laws and relevant international instruments;

38. *Calls upon* Member States to take appropriate and effective measures to prevent and combat trafficking in precious metals and stones by organized criminal groups, including, where appropriate, the adoption and effective implementation of the necessary legislation for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of illicit trafficking in precious metals and stones;

39. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impact in the fight against transnational organized crime, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in those areas;

40. *Encourages* Member States to continue to support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing targeted technical assistance, within its existing mandate, to enhance the capacity of affected States, upon their request, to combat piracy and other forms of crime committed at sea, including by assisting Member States in creating an effective law enforcement response and strengthening their judicial capacity;

41. *Encourages* States parties to continue to provide full support to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and their subsidiary bodies, including providing information to the conferences of the parties to the conventions regarding compliance with the treaties;

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the conferences of the parties to the conventions, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as well as the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, in accordance with its mandate;

43. *Reiterates its request* to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in close consultation with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373(2001) concerning counter-terrorism (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) and its Executive Directorate, as well as to continue to contribute to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, and invites Member States to provide the Office with appropriate resources for its mandate;

44. *Requests*, furthermore, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen the rule of law, taking also into account the work undertaken by the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group of the Secretariat and other relevant United Nations bodies;

45. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to ensure the diffusion, use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals and handbooks developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

46. *Urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to continue to provide full support to the review mechanism adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

47. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration and close consultation with Member States and within existing resources, to continue to support the enhancement of capacity and skills in the field of forensic sciences, including the setting of standards, and the development of technical assistance material for training, such as manuals, compilations of useful practices and guidelines and scientific and forensic reference material, for law enforcement officials and prosecution authorities, and to promote and facilitate the establishment and sustainability of regional networks of forensic science providers in order to enhance their expertise and capacity to prevent and combat transnational organized crime;

48. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme with sufficient, stable and predictable funding for the full

implementation of its mandates, in conformity with the high priority accorded to it and in accordance with the increasing demand for its services, in particular with regard to the provision of increased assistance to developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict, in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice reform;

49. *Urges* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its operational and technical cooperation activities;

50. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

51. *Invites* States and other interested parties to make further voluntary contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the United Nations Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses;

53. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in the report referred to in paragraph 52 above information on the status of ratifications of or accessions to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto.

Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/152 [YUN 1991, p. 661], and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1992/22 [YUN 1992, p. 842], 1994/21 [YUN 1994, p. 1174] and 1999/23 [YUN 1999, p. 1054], the Secretary-General in February [E/CN.15/2014/13] reported to CCPCJ on activities carried out in 2013 by the institutes comprising the UN crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, which included the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI); 15 regional and affiliated institutes; and the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme.

UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

In a March note [E/CN.15/2014/18 & Add.1], the Secretary-General transmitted to CCPCJ the report of the UNICRI Board of Trustees, which contained

information on the activities of the Institute. The Institute's activities focused on countering the threat of organized crime to security and development; increasing the efficiency of criminal justice systems for the protection of vulnerable groups; promoting international criminal law and practice; sharing best practices, building capacity to promote human rights and improving access to services; security governance and countering the appeal of terrorism; training and advanced education to build capacity in crime prevention and criminal justice. The report also considered risk assessment and the management of the Institute.

On 15 May [E/2014/30 (dec. 23/1)], CCPCJ decided to transmit the report of the UNICRI Board of Trustees to the Economic and Social Council. On 6 June [E/2014/85], the report of the Board of Trustees was transmitted to the Council. On 16 July, by **decision 2014/232**, the Council took note of the report.

Also on 16 July, by **decision 2014/231**, the Council endorsed the reappointment of Stuart Page (Australia) and the appointments of Carlos Castresana (Spain), Mohammed Hanzab (Qatar) and Joel Antonio Hernández García (Mexico) to the UNICRI Board of Trustees.

UN African crime prevention institute

In response to General Assembly resolution 68/194 [YUN 2013, p. 1237], the Secretary-General submitted a June report [A/69/92] on the activities carried out by the Uganda-based United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, which described the challenges posed by transnational organized crime situation in Africa and the efforts undertaken by African countries in responding to them. The report highlighted the value of evidence-based interventions in addressing the challenges encountered by Governments in fighting crime, as well as the need for regional and international cooperation. It underscored the severity of problems associated with the activities of international organized criminal syndicates and the increasing use of modern information technologies for the commission of crimes. It also stressed the importance of international technical assistance and support for building capacity to fight crime in Africa, and the need for the harmonization of national laws and policies and the exchange of best practices. The report described the measures relevant to the funding of the Institute's programmes—aimed at reducing the impact of crime on development—and outlined proposals for strengthening the Institute's capacity.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION

On 18 December [meeting 73], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/69/489], adopted **resolution 69/198** without vote [agenda item 105].

United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 68/194 of 18 December 2013 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,

Bearing in mind that weaknesses in crime prevention lead to subsequent difficulties at the level of crime control mechanisms, and bearing in mind also the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Aware of the devastating impact of new and more dynamic crime trends on the national economies of African States, such as the high levels of transnational organized crime being recorded in Africa, including the utilization of digital technology to commit all types of cybercrime, and aware also of illicit trafficking in cultural property, drugs, precious metals, rhinoceros horns and ivory, of piracy and money-laundering and of the fact that crime is a major obstacle to harmonious and sustainable development in Africa,

Emphasizing that combating crime is a collective endeavour to meet the global challenge of organized crime and that investment of necessary resources in crime prevention is important to that aim and contributes to sustainable development,

Noting with concern that in most African countries the existing criminal justice system does not have sufficiently skilled personnel and adequate infrastructure and is therefore ill-equipped to manage the emergence of new crime trends, and acknowledging the challenges that Africa faces in litigation processes and the management of correctional institutions,

Recognizing that the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders is a focal point for all professional efforts aimed at promoting the active cooperation and collaboration of Governments, academics, institutions and scientific and professional organizations and experts in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Bearing in mind the revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2013–2017), aimed at encouraging Member States to participate in and own the regional initiatives for effective crime prevention and good governance and strengthened justice administration,

Recognizing the importance of promoting sustainable development as a complement to crime prevention strategies,

Emphasizing the need to create necessary coalitions with all partners in the process of achieving effective crime prevention policies,

Welcoming the undertaking and conclusion of a preliminary diagnostic study by a consultant of the Economic Commission for Africa prior to the commencement of a full system-wide review process, including the significance of the Institute as a viable mechanism for promoting cooperation among the relevant entities to respond to the crime problem afflicting Africa,

Expressing concern over the continued absence of a director of the Institute, and noting the important role of

such senior management positions in ensuring the normal functioning of the Institute,

Noting with concern that the financial situation of the Institute has greatly affected its capacity to deliver services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner, and noting that one of the findings of the preliminary diagnostic study is that the Institute urgently needs to increase its income,

Acknowledging the Member States and organizations that have maintained their commitment to the fulfilment of their financial obligations,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote, coordinate and carry out more activities within its core mandate, including regional technical cooperation related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa, despite the resource constraints under which it is operating;

2. *Also commends* the initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in strengthening its working relationship with the Institute by supporting and involving the Institute in the implementation of a number of activities, including those contained in the revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2013–2017), on strengthening the rule of law and criminal justice systems in Africa;

3. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

4. *Also reiterates* the benefits, in some cases, of the utilization of alternative remedial measures, where appropriate, applying standards of ethical conduct and using local traditions, counselling and other emerging correctional rehabilitation measures, consistent with the obligations of States under international law;

5. *Notes* the efforts of the Institute to establish contacts with organizations in those countries which are promoting crime prevention programmes and its maintenance of close links with regional and subregional political entities, such as the African Union Commission, the East African Community, the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Southern African Development Community;

6. *Encourages* the Institute, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, to take into account the various planning authorities in the region that focus attention on the coordination of activities that promote development based on sustainable agricultural production and preservation of the environment in developing its crime prevention strategies;

7. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to continue to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

8. *Welcomes* the undertaking and conclusion of a preliminary diagnostic study in accordance with the decision of the Governing Board of the Institute, at its eleventh ordinary session, held in Nairobi on 27 and 28 April 2011, to carry out a review of the Institute to ensure that it can fulfil its mandate and assume a more prominent role in dealing with existing crime;

9. *Encourages* the Institute, partner agencies and other stakeholders to expedite the review process;

10. *Welcomes* the introduction by the Institute of a cost-sharing initiative in its execution of various programmes with Member States, partners and United Nations entities;

11. *Urges* all Member States and non-governmental organizations and the international community to continue to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and in the implementation of its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

12. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

13. *Encourages* African States that are not yet members of the Institute to consider becoming member States in order to strengthen the fight against crime and terrorism, which hamper individual and collective development efforts on the continent;

14. *Commends* the continued support provided by the Government of Uganda as host country, including resolving the issue of the ownership of the land on which the Institute is located and facilitating the Institute's collaboration with other stakeholders within Uganda and the region and with international partners;

15. *Also commends* the efforts of the Institute in implementing several programmes in the region, which have contributed, inter alia, to a growing set of coordinated remedial responses to crime on the basis of technical support in facilitating mutual assistance by law enforcement agencies and the emergence of regional jurisdictions;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate, bearing in mind that the precarious financial situation of the Institute greatly undermines its capacity to deliver services effectively;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core Professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

18. *Encourages* the Institute to consider focusing on specific and general vulnerabilities of each programme country and to maximize the use of available initiatives to address crime problems with existing funds, as well as available capacity, by creating useful coalitions with regional and local institutions;

19. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work closely with the Institute, and requests the Institute to provide the annual report on its activities to the Office as well as to the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue making concrete proposals, including for the provision

of additional core Professional staff, to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute, and to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

International cooperation in combating transnational organized crime and corruption

In February [E/CN.15/2014/3], the Secretary-General reported to CCPCJ on international cooperation in combating transnational organized crime and corruption. The report complemented the report of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime on its sixth session [YUN 2012, p. 1216] and the report of the Conference of the States Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption on its fifth session [YUN 2013, p. 1239], as well as the reports of the working groups established by those Conferences. It provided information on UNODC activities in the fight against transnational organized crime and corruption; international cooperation and technical assistance activities; the implementation of Commission resolution 22/3 [ibid.]; and the work of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption.

The Secretary-General recommended that the Commission remind Member States of the need to improve implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and its Protocols by expanding the knowledge base on transnational organized crime and prioritizing knowledge management on legislation and case law related to transnational organized crime; intensifying and systematizing the provision of legislative assistance on the Convention and its Protocols; and strengthening regional network cooperation. CCPCJ should consider urging Member States to ratify or accede to the Organized Crime Convention and its Protocols and to the Convention against Corruption, and provide financial and material contributions for the convening of working groups and workshops to assist in the implementation of both Conventions. It should call upon States to also make financial contributions in support of the Conferences and the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention against Corruption.

Conventions

UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted by General Assembly resolution 55/25 [YUN 2000, p. 1048], and its three supplementary Protocols—the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children [ibid., p. 1063]; the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land,

Sea and Air [ibid., p. 1067]; and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, adopted by the Assembly in resolution 55/255 [YUN 2001, p. 1036]—continued to attract adherence. As at 31 December, 183 States and the European Union (EU) were parties to the Convention, 165 States and the EU were parties to the Protocol on trafficking in persons, 140 States and the EU were parties to the Protocol on migrants, and 111 States and the EU were parties to the Protocol on firearms.

Conference of Parties. The Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, at its seventh session (Vienna, 6–10 October) [CTOC/COP/2014/13 & Add.1], adopted four resolutions on strengthening the implementation of the UN Convention and the Protocols thereto; the importance of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition; implementation of the provisions on technical assistance of the Convention; and implementation of the Convention's international cooperation provisions. The Conference also adopted two decisions on the provisional agenda for its eighth (2015) session, and the organization of the work for that session.

Working Group meetings. Several Working Groups of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime held meetings in 2014. The Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance, established by the second (2005) session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention [YUN 2005, p. 1224], held its eighth meeting (Vienna, 6–7 October) [CTOC/COP/WG.2/2014/4] and submitted recommendations to the Conference of the Parties for adoption. The Working Group on International Cooperation, established by the third (2006) session of the Conference [YUN 2007, p. 1134], held its fifth meeting (Vienna, 8–9 October) [CTOC/COP/WG.3/2014/4]. The Working Group on Firearms, established by the fifth (2010) session of the Conference [YUN 2010, p. 1110], held its second meeting (Vienna, 26–28 May) [CTOC/COP/WG.6/2014/4] and adopted recommendations.

UN Convention against Corruption

As at 31 December, 173 States and the EU were parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, adopted by the General Assembly in 2003 [YUN 2003, p. 1127].

Conference of Parties. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/195 [YUN 2013, p. 1240], the Secretary-General, in a June note [A/69/86], transmitted to the General Assembly the report of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on its fifth session (Panama City, Panama, 25–29 November 2013)

[*ibid.*, p. 1239]. On 18 December (**decision 69/537**), the General Assembly took note of that note.

The subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption held meetings in 2014. The Implementation Review Group, established by the third (2009) session of the Conference of States Parties [YUN 2009, p. 1096], held its fifth (Vienna, 2–6 June) [CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/11] and resumed fifth (13–15 October) [CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/11/Add.1] sessions. The Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption, established by the third (2009) session of the Conference of the States Parties [YUN 2009, p. 1096], held its fifth session (Vienna, 8–10 September) [CAC/COSP/WG.4/2014/5]. The Working Group on Asset Recovery, established by the first (2006) session of the Conference of the States Parties [YUN 2006, p. 1303], held its eighth session (Vienna, 11–12 September) [CAC/COSP/WG.2/2014/4]. The intergovernmental group of experts to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption, established on an open-ended basis by the fourth (2011) session of the Conference of the States Parties [YUN 2011, p. 1203], held its third session (Vienna, 9–10 October) [CAC/COSP/EG.1/2014/3].

Transfer of proceeds and asset recovery

The Secretary-General, in his June report [A/69/94] on implementation of the mandates of the UN crime prevention and criminal justice programme (see p. 000), discussed preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The joint UNODC/World Bank Stolen Asset Recovery (STAR) Initiative presented a study on criminal settlements and their impact on asset recovery and provided support for existing networks of asset recovery practitioners and for the establishment of two regional networks—for the Asia-Pacific region and for East Africa. The Initiative also continued to provide targeted country-specific assistance. From 2011 to 2013, more than 1,500 practitioners were trained on asset recovery and 235 on case management, about 230 in specific case-related contexts. Sixty-two attended train-the-trainer workshops and 20 received hands-on training on case management. The Secretary-General recommended that the General Assembly encourage Member States to afford each other the widest measure of cooperation and assistance for the return of assets.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 18 December [meeting 73], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/69/489], adopted **resolution 69/199** without vote [agenda item 105].

Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 55/61 of 4 December 2000, 55/188 of 20 December 2000, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its resolutions 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004, 60/207 of 22 December 2005, 61/209 of 20 December 2006, 62/202 of 19 December 2007, 63/226 of 19 December 2008, 64/237 of 24 December 2009, 65/169 of 20 December 2010, 67/189 and 67/192 of 20 December 2012 and 68/195 of 18 December 2013 and all relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, including resolution 23/9 of 13 June 2013,

Welcoming the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, and recognizing the need to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto and its full implementation,

Stressing the need for States parties to the Convention to give full effect to the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Bearing in mind the need to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively, that the return of assets is one of the main objectives, an integral part and a fundamental principle of the Convention, and recalling article 51 of the Convention, which obligates States parties to afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance with regard to asset return,

Recognizing that fighting corruption at all levels and in all its forms is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Recognizing also that education plays a fundamental role in the fight against corruption, inasmuch as it makes corrupt behaviour socially unacceptable,

Reaffirming the importance of respect for human rights, the rule of law, the proper management of public affairs and democracy in the fight against corruption,

Realizing that the fight against corruption at all levels, including by facilitating international cooperation to achieve the purposes enshrined in the Convention, including on asset recovery and return, plays an important role in the promotion and protection of all human rights and in the process of creating an environment conducive to their full enjoyment and realization,

Recognizing that supportive national legal systems are essential in preventing and combating corrupt practices, facilitating asset recovery and returning the proceeds of corruption to legitimate owners,

Recalling that the purposes of the Convention, as set out in article 1, are to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively, to promote, facilitate and support international cooperation and technical assistance in the prevention of

and fight against corruption, including in asset recovery, and to promote the integrity, accountability and proper management of public affairs and public property,

Welcoming the commitment of States parties to the Convention, and determined to give effect to the obligations set out in chapter V of the Convention in order to prevent, detect, deter and recover in a more effective manner the international transfer of proceeds of crime and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery,

Recognizing that those who engage in corrupt acts, whether natural or legal persons, consistent with domestic law and the requirements of the Convention, should be held accountable and prosecuted by their domestic authorities, and that all appropriate efforts should be made to conduct a financial investigation into assets illegally acquired by them and to recover such assets through domestic confiscation proceedings, international cooperation for purposes of confiscation or appropriate direct recovery measures,

Acknowledging that the fight against all forms of corruption requires comprehensive anti-corruption frameworks and strong institutions at all levels, including at the local and international levels, able to undertake efficient preventive and law enforcement measures in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapters II and III,

Recognizing that the success of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption depends on the full commitment and constructive engagement of all States parties to the Convention in a progressive and comprehensive process, and recalling in that regard resolution 3/1 of 13 November 2009 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, including the terms of reference of the Mechanism contained in the annex to that resolution, as well as decision 5/1 of 29 November 2013 of the Conference of the States Parties,

Noting with appreciation the significant number of States parties to the Convention that have been involved in the ongoing first review cycle process of the Mechanism, both as countries under review and as reviewing States, as well as the support provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in this regard,

Bearing in mind that the prevention and eradication of corruption is a responsibility of all States and that they must cooperate with one another, with the support and involvement of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, if their efforts in this area are to be effective,

Reaffirming its concern about the laundering and transfer of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and stressing the need to address this concern in accordance with the Convention,

Noting the efforts made by all States parties to the Convention in tracing, freezing and recovering their stolen assets, and underlining the need to redouble efforts to assist in the recovery of those assets in order to preserve stability and sustainable development,

Noting also the work of other initiatives in asset recovery, such as the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, and welcoming efforts to enhance cooperation between requesting and requested States,

Recognizing that States continue to face challenges in recovering assets owing to differences between legal systems,

the complexity of multijurisdictional investigations and prosecutions, the limited implementation of effective domestic tools such as non-conviction-based forfeiture for asset recovery, as well as other administrative or civil procedures leading to confiscation, lack of familiarity with the mutual legal assistance procedures of other States and difficulties in identifying the flow of corruption proceeds, and noting the particular challenges posed in recovering the proceeds of corruption in cases involving individuals who are or have been entrusted with prominent public functions, as well as their family members and close associates,

Concerned about the difficulties, particularly the legal and practical difficulties, that both requested and requesting States face in asset recovery, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of stolen assets for sustainable development and stability, and noting the difficulty of providing information establishing a link between proceeds of corruption in the requested State and the crime committed in the requesting State, which in many cases can be difficult to prove,

Recognizing the common difficulties experienced by States parties to the Convention in establishing a nexus between identified assets and the crime from which such assets are derived, and emphasizing the critical importance of effective domestic investigative efforts and international cooperation to overcome such difficulties,

Recognizing also the critical importance of effective international cooperation in efforts to combat corruption, particularly with respect to offences specified in the Convention with a transnational element, and encouraging continued cooperation by States parties, consistent with the requirements of the Convention, in all efforts to investigate and prosecute natural and legal persons, including the use of other legal mechanisms, where appropriate, for offences specified in the Convention and to recover assets related to such offences, consistent with chapter V of the Convention,

Calling upon all States parties to the Convention and, in particular, requested and requesting States, to cooperate to recover the proceeds of corruption and demonstrate strong commitment to ensure the return or disposal of such proceeds in accordance with article 57 of the Convention,

Noting the responsibility of requesting and requested States parties to cooperate to ensure that a greater proportion of the proceeds emanating from corruption are recovered, returned or otherwise disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Convention,

Concerned that some persons accused of crimes of corruption have managed to escape justice and thus have eluded the legal consequences of their actions, and have been successful in hiding their assets,

Taking into account the need to hold corrupt officials accountable by depriving them of their stolen assets,

Acknowledging the vital importance of ensuring the independence and effectiveness of authorities charged with investigating and prosecuting crimes of corruption and of recovering the proceeds of such crimes by several means, such as establishing the necessary legal framework and allocating the necessary resources,

Acknowledging also the fundamental principles of due process of law in criminal proceedings and in civil or administrative proceedings to adjudicate property rights,

Reiterating its concern about the seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security

of societies, undermining the institutions and the values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing sustainable development and the rule of law, in particular when an inadequate national and international response leads to impunity,

Concerned about the negative impact of widespread corruption on the enjoyment of human rights, recognizing that corruption constitutes one of the obstacles to the effective promotion and protection of human rights, as well as to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, and recognizing also that corruption may disproportionately affect the most disadvantaged individuals of society,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing efforts by regional organizations and forums to strengthen cooperation in combating corruption, which aim, inter alia, to ensure openness and transparency, combat domestic and foreign bribery, tackle corruption in high-risk sectors, strengthen international cooperation and promote public integrity and transparency in the fight against corruption, which fuels illicit trade and insecurity and is a tremendous barrier to economic growth and the safety of citizens,

Noting the efforts of regional organizations and forums to combat corruption, including the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Course of Action on Fighting Corruption and Ensuring Transparency and the Santiago Commitment to Fight Corruption and Ensure Transparency, and the Group of 20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan, the Saint Petersburg Development Strategy, the non-binding Guiding Principles on Enforcement of the Foreign Bribery Offence, the Guiding Principles to Combat Solicitation, the Asset Recovery Principles, the asset recovery country profiles and the Asset Recovery Guides,

Noting also the Lausanne process initiative on practical guidelines for efficient asset recovery, which is being undertaken with a view to identifying good practices in effective and coordinated approaches to asset recovery for practitioners from requesting and requested States, with the support of interested States, implemented in close collaboration with the International Centre for Asset Recovery and with the support of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the World Bank and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. *Condemns* corruption at all levels and in all its forms, including bribery, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of economic crime;
3. *Expresses concern* about the magnitude of corruption at all levels, including the scale of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and in this regard reiterates its commitment to preventing and combating corrupt practices at all levels, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
4. *Welcomes* the fact that 173 States parties have already ratified or acceded to the Convention, thus making it an instrument enjoying a status very close to universal adherence, and in this regard urges all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations, within the limits of their competence, that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and urges all States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure its full and effective implementation;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the panel discussion on the negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights held at the twenty-second session of the Human Rights Council;

6. *Also notes with appreciation* the work carried out under the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and by the Implementation Review Group, and urges Member States to continue to support this work and make every possible effort to provide comprehensive information and adhere to the timelines for review as contained in the guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat in the conduct of country reviews;

7. *Welcomes* the progress made in the first review cycle of the Mechanism and the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in support of the Mechanism, and encourages the use of the lessons learned during the first review cycle in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Mechanism, as well as the implementation of the Convention;

8. *Encourages* Member States to engage actively in the preparation of the review of chapter II, on prevention measures, and chapter V, on asset recovery, of the Convention in the second review cycle of the Mechanism;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Groups on Asset Recovery, on the Prevention of Corruption and on Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and encourages States parties to the Convention to support the work of all of these subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

10. *Encourages* all States parties to the Convention to renew their commitment to effective national action and international cooperation to give full effect to chapter V of the Convention and to contribute effectively to the recovery of the proceeds of corruption;

11. *Urges* Member States to combat and penalize corruption in all its forms, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption, to prevent the acquisition, transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption and to work for the prompt recovery of such assets in accordance with the principles of the Convention, including chapter V;

12. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to call upon States parties to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of international mutual legal assistance requests that need urgent action, including those related to the States concerned in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as other requesting States, and to ensure that the competent authorities of requested States have adequate resources to execute requests, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of these assets for sustainable development and stability;

13. *Urges* States parties that have yet to designate a central authority for international cooperation in accordance with the Convention to do so, and to appoint focal points for the purposes of international cooperation and mutual legal assistance in asset recovery, and, where appropriate, encourages States parties to make full use of the network

of focal points of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery to facilitate cooperation and the implementation of the Convention, as well as the Global Focal Point Network on Asset Recovery, supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

14. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to use and promote informal channels of communication, in particular prior to making formal requests for mutual legal assistance, by, inter alia, designating officials or institutions, as appropriate, with technical expertise in international cooperation in asset recovery to assist their counterparts in effectively meeting requirements for formal mutual legal assistance;

15. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to remove barriers to asset recovery, including by simplifying their legal procedures and preventing abuse of those procedures;

16. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to give full effect to the resolutions, including those on asset recovery, of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

17. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the identification and recovery of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption and to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of requests for international mutual legal assistance, in accordance with the Convention, and to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the extradition of individuals accused of the predicate offences, in accordance with their obligations under the Convention, including article 44;

18. *Also urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that procedures for international cooperation allow for the seizure and/or restraint of assets for a time period sufficient to preserve those assets in full, pending confiscation proceedings in another State, to ensure that there are adequate mechanisms in place to manage and preserve the value and condition of assets pending the conclusion of confiscation proceedings in another State, and to allow or expand cooperation in the enforcement of foreign judgements and restraint orders and confiscation judgements, including through awareness-raising for judicial authorities;

19. *Further urges* States parties to the Convention to take a proactive approach to international cooperation in asset recovery by making full use of the mechanisms provided for in chapter V of the Convention, including initiating requests for assistance, making spontaneous disclosures of information on proceeds of offences to other States parties and considering making requests for notifications, in accordance with article 52, paragraph 2 (b), of the Convention, and, where appropriate, implementing measures to permit the recognition of non-conviction-based forfeiture judgements;

20. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that reliable beneficial ownership information on companies is accessible onshore to law enforcement agencies and other relevant authorities, including, as appropriate, financial intelligence units and tax administrations, thus facilitating the investigation process and execution of requests;

21. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to cooperate in order to implement the measures necessary to enable them to obtain reliable information on beneficial

ownership of companies, legal structures or other complex legal mechanisms, including trusts and holdings, used to commit crimes of corruption or to hide and transfer proceeds;

22. *Urges* Member States, where appropriate and consistent with their national legal systems, to provide each other with the widest possible assistance in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption;

23. *Encourages* Member States to prevent and combat all forms of corruption by increasing transparency, integrity, accountability and efficiency in the public and private sectors, and recognizes in this regard the need to prevent impunity by prosecuting corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to cooperate in their extradition, in accordance with the obligations under the Convention;

24. *Stresses* the need for transparency in financial institutions, invites Member States to work on the identification and tracing of financial flows linked to corruption, the freezing or seizing of assets derived from corruption and the return of such assets, in accordance with the Convention, and encourages the promotion of human and institutional capacity-building in that regard;

25. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to give timely consideration to mutual legal assistance requests relating to the identification, freezing, tracing and/or recovery of proceeds of corruption and to respond effectively to requests for exchange of information related to proceeds of crime, property, equipment or other instruments referred to in article 31 of the Convention situated in the territory of the requested State party, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, including article 40;

26. *Urges* States, in accordance with the fundamental principles of their legal systems, to develop and implement or maintain effective, coordinated anti-corruption policies that promote the participation of society and reflect the principles of the rule of law, proper management of public affairs and public property, integrity, transparency and accountability;

27. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to recognize the importance of the involvement of young people and children as key actors in strengthening ethical behaviour, beginning with the identification and adoption of values, principles and actions that make it possible to build a fair and corruption-free society, in accordance with the Convention, and in this regard welcomes the adoption on 29 November 2013 of resolution 5/5 by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

28. *Welcomes* the efforts of Member States that have enacted laws and taken other positive measures in the fight against corruption in all its forms, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not yet done so to enact such laws and to implement effective measures at the national level, in accordance with the Convention;

29. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to take measures to prevent the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, including to prevent the financial institutions in both countries of origin and countries of destination from being used to transfer or receive illicit funds, as well as to assist in their recovery and to return such assets to the requesting State, in accordance with the Convention;

30. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to work with all stakeholders in international and domestic financial

markets to deny safe haven to assets acquired illicitly by individuals engaged in corruption, to deny entry and safe haven to corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to enhance international collaboration in the investigation and prosecution of corruption offences, as well as in the recovery of proceeds of corruption;

31. *Urges* all Member States to abide by the principles of proper management of public affairs and public property, fairness, responsibility and equality before the law and the need to safeguard integrity and to foster a culture of transparency, accountability and rejection of corruption, in accordance with the Convention;

32. *Calls for* further international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of national, subregional and regional efforts to prevent and combat corrupt practices and the transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption, in accordance with the principles of the Convention, and in this regard encourages close and enhanced coordination, cooperation and synergies between anti-corruption agencies, law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units;

33. *Stresses* the need for further cooperation and coordination among the different international, regional and subregional organizations and initiatives mandated to prevent and combat corruption;

34. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures, within their means and in accordance with fundamental principles of their national law, to promote the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, in the prevention of and the fight against corruption and to raise public awareness regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption;

35. *Recalls* article 63, paragraph 4 (c), of the Convention, in which it is stated, inter alia, that the Conference of the States Parties shall agree upon activities, procedures and methods of work to achieve the objectives set forth in paragraph 1 of that article, including by cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and mechanisms and non-governmental organizations, and in this regard invites the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to give due consideration to the implementation of the above-mentioned provision;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the Convention and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention is adequately funded, consistent with the resolution adopted by the Conference of the States Parties at its fourth session;

37. *Reiterates its call upon* the private sector, at both the international and the national levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, to remain fully engaged in the fight against corruption, notes in this context the role that the Global Compact can play in fighting corruption and promoting transparency, emphasizes the need for all relevant stakeholders, including within the United Nations system, as appropriate, to continue to promote corporate responsibility and accountability, and in

this regard welcomes the adoption on 29 November 2013 of resolution 5/6 by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

38. *Recognizes* the important role of business and public-private partnerships in promoting measures to fight corruption, especially measures that support the promotion of ethical business practices in interactions between government, business and other stakeholders;

39. *Encourages* Member States to implement and raise awareness regarding effective anti-corruption education programmes;

40. *Urges* the international community to provide, inter alia, technical assistance to support national efforts to strengthen human and institutional capacity aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption and to facilitate asset recovery and the return and disposal of such proceeds in accordance with the Convention, and to support national efforts in formulating strategies for mainstreaming and promoting anti-corruption efforts, transparency and integrity in both the public and the private sectors;

41. *Urges* States parties and signatories to the Convention to strengthen the capacity of legislators, law enforcement officials, judges and prosecutors to combat corruption and to deal with matters relating to asset recovery, including in the areas of mutual legal assistance, confiscation, criminal confiscation and, where appropriate, non-conviction-based forfeiture, in accordance with national law and the Convention, and civil proceedings, and to give the highest consideration to providing technical assistance in those fields, upon request;

42. *Encourages* Member States to exchange and share with each other, including through regional and international organizations, as appropriate, information on lessons learned and good practices, as well as information related to technical assistance activities and initiatives in order to strengthen international efforts to prevent and combat corruption;

43. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to provide regular updates and to expand, where appropriate, the information contained in the relevant databases of knowledge on asset recovery, such as Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge and Asset Recovery Watch, taking into consideration constraints on information-sharing based on confidentiality requirements;

44. *Encourages* the collection and systematization of good practices and tools in the cooperation for asset recovery, including the use and expansion of secure information-sharing tools with a view to enhancing early and spontaneous information exchange insofar as possible and in accordance with the Convention;

45. *Also encourages* the collection of substantial information duly researched and regularly published by recognized organizations and representatives of civil society;

46. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to make widely available information on their legal frameworks and procedures with regard to asset recovery under chapter V of the Convention, in a practical guide or other format designed to facilitate use by other States, and to consider, where advisable, the publication of that information in other languages;

47. *Calls upon* requesting and requested States with practical experience in asset recovery to develop, as appro-

appropriate, in cooperation with interested States and providers of technical assistance, non-binding practical guidelines, such as a step-by-step guide, for efficient asset recovery, with a view to enhancing effective approaches to asset recovery based on the lessons learned from past cases, being mindful to seek to add value by building upon existing work in this area;

48. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to share approaches and practical experience for the return of assets, consistent with article 57 of the Convention, for further dissemination through the Secretariat;

49. *Encourages* requesting States to ensure that adequate national investigative procedures have been initiated and substantiated for the purpose of presenting mutual legal assistance requests, and in this context encourages requested States to provide, when appropriate, information on legal frameworks and procedures to the requesting State;

50. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to compile and provide information in accordance with article 52 of the Convention and to take other actions that help to establish the linkage between assets and offences under the Convention;

51. *Notes with appreciation* the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank and its cooperation with relevant partners, including the International Centre for Asset Recovery and INTERPOL, and encourages coordination among existing initiatives;

52. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in collaboration with the World Bank through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and in coordination with other relevant stakeholders, upon request, technical assistance for the implementation of chapter V of the Convention, including by providing direct expertise on policy or capacity-building through the Office's thematic programme on action against corruption, economic fraud and identity-related crime and, where appropriate, regional programmes, using its range of technical assistance tools;

53. *Notes* the work of other initiatives in the field of asset recovery, such as the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, and welcomes their efforts to enhance cooperation between requesting and requested States;

54. *Welcomes* the work of the International Anti-Corruption Academy, a centre of excellence for education, training and academic research in the anti-corruption field, including in the area of asset recovery, and looks forward to its continued efforts in this regard to promote the goals and implementation of the Convention;

55. *Also welcomes* the holding of the fifth session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention, in Panama City from 25 to 29 November 2013, and its outcomes and contributions to promoting the implementation of the Convention, and reiterates its appreciation for the offer by the Government of the Russian Federation to host the sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties in 2015;

56. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing reporting obligations, to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice an analytical section entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners,

in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption", and also requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Assembly the report of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on its sixth session.

Strengthening the rule of law

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/188 [YUN 2013, p. 1243], the Secretary-General, in his June report [A/69/94] on implementation of the mandates of the UN crime prevention and criminal justice programme, discussed measures taken to strengthen the rule of law and promote its inclusion into the post-2015 development agenda. UNODC had contributed to the General Assembly's Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals in the areas of peaceful and inclusive societies, rule of law and capable institutions, and in that regard the Office co-hosted a side event on conflict prevention, post-conflict peacebuilding and the promotion of durable peace, rule of law and governance during the Open Working Group's eighth session, in February. The Secretary-General requested Member States to recognize the importance of peaceful and inclusive societies, accountable institutions and justice and the rule of law as enabling conditions for and as integral parts of sustainable and equitable growth, and to include relevant goals, targets and indicators in the post-2015 development framework.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 16 July [meeting 45], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2014/30], adopted **resolution 2014/19** without vote [agenda item 17 (e)].

Rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

[For text, see General Assembly resolution 69/195 below.]

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 18 December [meeting 73], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/69/489], adopted **resolution 69/195** without vote [agenda item 105].

Rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law,

Reaffirming also its commitment to the declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels,

Strongly determined to reinvigorate political will and to raise the level of the international community's commitment to moving the sustainable development agenda forward, through the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming the necessity of respecting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms in the prevention of crime and the administration of and access to justice, including criminal justice,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "A life of dignity for all: accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and advancing the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015", and noting the recommendations of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda,

Noting the activity of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals,

Noting also the thematic and national consultations on the post-2015 United Nations development agenda organized by the United Nations Development Group in many countries,

Reiterating that the rule of law and development are inter-related and mutually reinforcing and that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth, sustainable development, the eradication of poverty and hunger and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, all of which in turn reinforce the rule of law,

Reiterating also that transnational crime must be addressed with full respect for the principles of the sovereign equality and territorial integrity of States and of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other States, and in accordance with the rule of law, as part of a comprehensive response to promote durable solutions through the promotion of human rights and more equitable socioeconomic conditions, and in that regard stressing again the importance of encouraging Member States to develop, as appropriate, comprehensive crime prevention policies based on an understanding of the multiple factors that contribute to crime and to address such factors in a holistic manner, while emphasizing that crime prevention should be an integral element of strategies to foster social and economic development in all States,

Stressing the importance of a well-functioning, efficient, fair, effective and humane criminal justice system as the basis for a successful strategy against transnational organized crime, corruption, terrorism, drug trafficking and other forms of trafficking,

Recalling its resolution 67/186 of 20 December 2012, entitled "Strengthening the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, particularly in the areas related to the United Nations system-wide approach to fighting transnational organized crime and drug trafficking", and its resolution 68/188 of 18 December 2013, entitled "The rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015",

Acknowledging the centrality of crime prevention and the criminal justice system to the rule of law, and also acknowledging that long-term sustainable economic and social development and the establishment of a functioning,

efficient, effective and humane criminal justice system have a positive influence on each other, as stated in the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World, of 2010,

Reaffirming the importance of promoting the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,

Reaffirming also the importance of relevant international anti-terrorism instruments, as appropriate, and drawing on the existing United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recalling its resolution 63/23 of 17 November 2008, entitled "Promoting development through the reduction and prevention of armed violence",

Concerned about the serious threat that violence related to transnational organized crime poses to development and the rule of law, security and well-being of communities, hindering the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by reducing national income and productivity, diverting investment and rolling back hard-won development gains, and recognizing that comprehensive crime prevention strategies can contribute to addressing those challenges effectively,

Recognizing the importance of ensuring that women and girls, on the basis of gender equality, fully enjoy the benefits of the rule of law, and committed to using law to uphold equal rights and ensure their full and equal participation,

Welcoming the conference entitled "Bangkok Dialogue on the Rule of Law", hosted by the Government of Thailand in Bangkok on 15 November 2013, which discussed the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice as a substantive contribution to the discussion on the post-2015 development agenda,

Noting the publication of the study paper entitled "Accounting for security and justice in the post-2015 development agenda" by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in 2013,

Noting also the publication of the "Global Study on Homicide 2013: Trends, Contexts, Data" by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Taking into consideration that the main theme of the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Doha in 2015, will be "Integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and public participation",

Convinced that respect for and promotion of the rule of law, both nationally and internationally, are essential elements in addressing and preventing transnational organized crime and corruption, and noting that the rule of law requires strong and efficient justice sector coordination, as well as effective inter-agency cooperation and coordination with other relevant United Nations offices and activities,

1. *Recognizes* the cross-cutting nature of the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice and development, and recommends that such linkages and interrelationships be properly addressed and further elaborated;

2. *Underscores* that the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda should take into account respect for and promotion of the rule of law and that crime prevention and criminal justice have an important role in that regard, giving due consideration to the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in order to channel, as appropriate, its contribution to the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda, in close consultation with all relevant stakeholders;

3. *Encourages* Member States, in their deliberations on the post-2015 development agenda, to give due consideration to the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice, while promoting universal respect for human rights and strengthening relevant national institutions;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as a member of the United Nations System Task Team on the Post-2015 United Nations Development Agenda, to continue to contribute analytical inputs and expertise to the work of the Task Team and to report to the Commission at its twenty-fourth session on the results of this work;

5. *Stresses* the importance of a comprehensive approach to transitional justice, incorporating the wide range of judicial and non-judicial measures to ensure accountability and promote reconciliation while protecting the rights of victims of crime and of abuse of power, drawing on the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in accordance with its mandates, to support criminal justice reforms and strengthen the rule of law at the national and international levels;

6. *Also stresses* the need for government institutions, the judicial system and the legislative system to be gender-sensitive and for the continued promotion of the full participation of women in such institutions;

7. *Further stresses* the importance of promoting the design and implementation of national and regional strategies and policies, as appropriate, on the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice as an effective and coordinated response to transnational organized crime, particularly in connection with new and emerging forms of transnational organized crime;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to assist Member States, upon request, in developing comprehensive crime prevention strategies, to address violence related to transnational organized crime, including urban crime, and to continue to support the exchange of expertise and good practices, with the support of civil society, as appropriate;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in improving systems for collecting and analysing data on crime prevention and criminal justice at all levels, where necessary, including gender-specific data, in order to contribute, where appropriate, to the post-2015 development agenda;

10. *Invites* the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network to continue to include in their work programmes the issues of the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as to consider exploring the challenges posed by violence related to transnational organized crime, and encourages them to develop appropriate training material;

11. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described

above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, through the Commission, to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Trafficking in persons

Trafficking in women and girls. Pursuant to Assembly resolution 67/145 [YUN 2012, p. 1110], the Secretary-General submitted an August report [A/69/224] on measures taken by Member States and activities within the UN system to address trafficking in women and girls (see p. 000). In an August note [A/69/269], the Secretary-General transmitted to the General Assembly the report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children (see p. 000), submitted in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 17/1 [YUN 2011, p. 740].

On 18 December, the General Assembly adopted **resolution 69/149** (see p. 000) on trafficking in women and girls, by which it urged Member States that had not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; and urged Member States, the United Nations and other international, regional and subregional organizations, as well as civil society, to implement the relevant provisions of the UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. It encouraged the UN system to mainstream the issue of trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, into its broader policies and programmes; invited the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, to cooperate with international, regional and national mechanisms; urged Governments to provide or strengthen training for, and to raise awareness among, law enforcement, judicial, immigration and other relevant officials on the prevention and combating of trafficking in persons, including the sexual exploitation of women and girls; and invited Governments to take steps to ensure that criminal justice procedures and witness protection programmes were sensitive to the situation of trafficked women and girls.

Smuggling of migrants

During the regular part of its twenty-third (2014) session, CCPCJ considered and approved for adoption by the Economic and Social Council a draft resolution on the issue of international cooperation in combating the smuggling of migrants (see below). Participants noted that it was the first time the Commission had approved a resolution on the smuggling of migrants and that doing so provided

an opportunity to promote debate and international cooperation on the issue—an area in which multilateralism could make a concrete difference.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 16 July [meeting 45], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2014/30], adopted **resolution 2014/23** without vote [agenda item 17 (c)].

Strengthening international cooperation in addressing the smuggling of migrants

The Economic and Social Council,

Convinced of the need to provide migrants with humane treatment and full protection of their rights,

Expressing its deepest concern over the negative impact of the smuggling of migrants on society and the rule of law and over the fact that individual migrants have lost their lives in dangerous smuggling operations, and commending all those who have dedicated themselves to protecting and assisting smuggled migrants, whose lives or safety are endangered by reason of being the object of such conduct,

Expressing its deepest concern also about the increase in the activities of transnational and national organized criminal entities and others that profit from the smuggling of migrants, especially women and children, and related offences,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 66/128 of 19 December 2011, entitled “Violence against women migrant workers”, 66/172 of 19 December 2011, entitled “Protection of migrants”, 67/185 of 20 December 2012, entitled “Promoting efforts to eliminate violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families”, 67/219 of 21 December 2012, entitled “International migration and development”, 68/4 of 3 October 2013, entitled “Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development”, and 68/193 of 18 December 2013, entitled “Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity”,

Recognizing that international migration is a multi-dimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, and also recognizing that this cross-cutting phenomenon should be addressed in a coherent, comprehensive and balanced manner, while respecting human rights and integrating development aspects, with due regard for social, economic and environmental dimensions,

Underlining the challenges posed by the smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air, as illustrated by events at the global level,

Bearing in mind the obligations of States under applicable international law to exercise due diligence to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants and to investigate and punish perpetrators, notwithstanding the obligation of States to protect the rights and respect the dignity of smuggled migrants under applicable international law,

Recognizing the sovereign right of States to enact and implement migration and border security measures, without prejudice to applicable international commitments in relation to the free movement of people,

Recognizing also the need for more effective international information-sharing, law enforcement cooperation and mutual legal assistance to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants,

Recalling that migrants shall not be liable to criminal prosecution under the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, for the fact of having been the object of conduct set out in article 6 of the Protocol, and that nothing in the Protocol prevents a State party from taking measures against a person whose conduct constitutes an offence under its domestic law,

Bearing in mind the need for a focused and consistent criminal justice approach to the smuggling of migrants and related offences,

Underlining that, although the crime of smuggling of migrants may share, in some cases, some common features with the crime of trafficking in persons, Member States need to recognize that they are distinct crimes requiring separate and complementary legal, operational and policy responses,

Welcoming the work and tools of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the framework of the Global Programme against the Smuggling of Migrants, including the Model Law against the Smuggling of Migrants, the International Framework for Action to Implement the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol and the Assessment Guide to the Criminal Justice Response to the Smuggling of Migrants,

Noting the launch by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the voluntary reporting system on migrant smuggling and related conduct as a secure solution for collecting, sharing and analysing information on the smuggling of migrants, in support of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime,

Recalling that the theme of the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015, will be “Integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and public participation”,

1. *Underlines* the need to address challenges related to the smuggling of migrants through a comprehensive and balanced approach, and through bilateral, regional and international cooperation and dialogue, as appropriate, between countries of origin, transit and destination;

2. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing preventive measures, combating criminal networks and improving border control management, without prejudice to applicable international commitments in relation to the free movement of people;

3. *Highlights* the need to promote or strengthen, as appropriate, development programmes and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels, taking into account the socioeconomic realities of migration and paying special attention to economically and socially depressed areas, in order to combat the root socioeconomic causes of the smuggling of migrants, especially those related to poverty;

4. *Underlines* that international cooperation to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants implies a common and shared responsibility among Member States;

5. *Also underlines* the crucial role of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, as the primary international legal instruments to combat the smuggling of migrants and related conduct;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the increasing level of adherence to the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol and, on the tenth anniversary of its entry into force, urges States parties to implement it fully, and encourages States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Protocol;

7. *Urges* Member States, where appropriate, to adopt measures to increase public awareness of the fact that the smuggling of migrants is a criminal activity frequently perpetrated by organized criminal groups for profit, posing serious risks to the migrants concerned;

8. *Stresses* the need to develop national and, as appropriate, regional policies and strategies against the smuggling of migrants and to reinforce international cooperation for the prevention of the crime and for the prosecution of smugglers, in accordance with national laws and legislation;

9. *Encourages* Member States to adopt relevant measures, including, if necessary, reviewing relevant legislation, including criminal legislation, and to criminalize the acts covered by the Organized Crime Convention and the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, including by introducing appropriate sanctions commensurate with the nature and gravity of the offence;

10. *Urges* Member States, as appropriate, to avail themselves of the international cooperation framework provided by the Organized Crime Convention, the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol and other applicable international legal instruments, in order to ensure that they have an adequate legal framework to allow for extradition, mutual legal assistance and other cooperation tools in relation to such crimes;

11. *Encourages* Member States to cooperate with each other and with relevant international organizations to the fullest extent possible, in accordance with articles 18 and 19 of the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol and applicable obligations under relevant international law;

12. *Also encourages* Member States to ensure that, in investigating and prosecuting the smuggling of migrants, the concurrent undertaking of financial investigations is considered, with a view to tracing, freezing and confiscating proceeds acquired through that crime, and to consider the smuggling of migrants to be a predicate offence of money-laundering;

13. *Further encourages* Member States to take measures to protect witnesses in cases of smuggling of migrants, as called for in the Organized Crime Convention, to take appropriate measures to provide for the effective protection of witnesses who testify in criminal proceedings and, as appropriate, their relatives, including protection from potential retaliation, and to strengthen international cooperation in this area;

14. *Encourages* Member States to promote the reliable collection of data and research, at the national and, as appropriate, the regional and international levels, on the smuggling of migrants, including on smuggling networks and the involvement of organized crime in countries of origin, transit and destination, and on the possible links that

may exist between the smuggling of migrants and other criminal activities;

15. *Also encourages* Member States to consider strengthening multi-agency cooperation and coordination at the national, bilateral and, where appropriate, regional levels, and to consider, if necessary, the establishment of multi-agency centres for the purpose of data collection, strategic analysis and information-sharing in order to detect, prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants, in accordance with national legislation;

16. *Further encourages* Member States to exchange information, as appropriate, on best practices to promote cooperation to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants and coordination to investigate and prosecute the smuggling of migrants, in accordance with applicable domestic and international law;

17. *Encourages* Member States to use existing channels for information exchange, such as those provided by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), to exchange information, in a manner consistent with domestic law, including information on persons convicted or suspected of conducting or facilitating the smuggling of migrants;

18. *Notes* the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in protecting the rights of smuggled migrants and the need to avoid approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability, and reaffirms the need to effectively protect the rights and respect the dignity of smuggled migrants and internationally recognized principles of non-discrimination and other applicable obligations under relevant international law, taking into account the special needs of women and children, especially unaccompanied children;

19. *Stresses* the primary role of the State in overcoming the challenges posed by the smuggling of migrants, and recognizes the important contribution of non-governmental organizations, other relevant organizations and other elements of civil society in protecting and assisting smuggled migrants;

20. *Invites* Member States to fully utilize all relevant tools developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime within the Global Programme against the Smuggling of Migrants and the relevant regional and national programmes, including the Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws against Organized Crime knowledge management portal, and also invites Member States to provide to the Secretariat legislation and case law related to the smuggling of migrants, for inclusion in that portal;

21. *Also invites* Member States, through bilateral, regional and international cooperation, where appropriate, to collaborate to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants through the provision of assistance, including technical assistance, upon request, with a view to building capacities and enhancing abilities to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants;

22. *Encourages* Member States to provide specialized training for law enforcement, immigration and border control officials and coastguard personnel, as well as forensic experts, prosecutors and judges, so that they are better able to recognize and deal with issues related to the smuggling of migrants;

23. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, upon request, technical

assistance aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to criminalize, investigate and prosecute the smuggling of migrants, and invites Member States to consider and to draw upon the International Framework for Action to Implement the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, the Basic Training Manual on Investigating and Prosecuting the Smuggling of Migrants and the In-depth Training Manual on Investigating and Prosecuting the Smuggling of Migrants;

24. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to strengthen collaboration and cooperation with all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, including Global Migration Group members, within their respective mandates, in order to adopt a coherent, comprehensive and coordinated approach and thus to fully address the challenges posed by the smuggling of migrants;

25. *Encourages* Member States to make the best use of the relevant work and initiatives of the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network in order to promote regional and international cooperation against the smuggling of migrants;

26. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to promote cooperation on the most effective ways to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants, in view of, among other things, the workshop on the topic “Trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants: successes and challenges in criminalization, in mutual legal assistance and in effective protection of witnesses and trafficking victims”, to be held within the framework of the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

27. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Terrorism

In a February report [E/CN.15/2014/4], the Secretary-General reviewed the activities of UNODC during 2013, particularly those of its Terrorism Prevention Branch, in delivering counter-terrorism assistance. The report highlighted the efforts made and challenges faced by Member States regarding the criminal justice aspects of countering terrorism and emphasized the need for enhanced governmental support. The objective of the Office’s counter-terrorism activities was to strengthen the legal regime against terrorism through promoting ratification of the 18 international legal instruments against terrorism and assisting States with incorporating the provisions of those instruments into national legislation; building the capacity of national officials to implement counter-terrorism legislation; and promoting regional and international cooperation in criminal matters. Such assistance to requesting Member States contributed to 24 new

ratifications and led to the preparation of 16 new or revised pieces of national counter-terrorism legislation. It also enhanced the knowledge and practices of national criminal justice systems regarding the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorism cases, as well as their capacity to cooperate regionally and internationally. In 2013, UNODC provided capacity-building assistance to 83 countries worldwide through 93 workshops at the national, subregional and regional levels and training for over 2,500 criminal justice officials. Capacity-building efforts related to countering the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes; improving the assistance provided to victims of acts of terrorism and the criminal justice response in support of such victims; countering chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism; suppressing the financing of terrorism; addressing transport-related (civil aviation and maritime) terrorism offences; criminal justice responses to terrorism in the framework of the rule of law and respect for human rights; developing specialized technical assistance tools; and providing technical assistance in close cooperation with national training institutions and other bodies. During the year, partnerships with UN entities and subregional, regional and international organizations contributed to enhanced coordination and cooperation in the delivery of assistance, including through several joint projects. The report concluded with a set of recommendations for consideration by CCPCJ.

In a July report [A/69/209] (see p. 000), the Secretary-General reviewed measures to eliminate international terrorism. It considered measures taken at the national and international levels, contained a list of international legal instruments, and provided information on workshops and training courses on combating crimes connected with international terrorism.

On 10 December, the General Assembly adopted **resolution 69/127** on measures to eliminate international terrorism (see p. 000).

(For more information on terrorism, see PART I, Chapter I)

Trafficking in human organs

Commission action. On 16 May [E/2014/30 (res. 23/2)], the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice urged Member States to combat trafficking in organs by preventing and punishing the unauthorized removal or implantation of organs and the illicit sale, brokering, purchase and other illicit transactions in respect of human organs, as well as trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal. It encouraged Member States to review, develop or amend legislative measures to combat illicit trafficking of human organs; strengthen regulatory oversight of relevant medical facilities and the medical personnel thereof; provide training for law

enforcement, border control officials and medical personnel to identify potential cases of organ trafficking and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal; conduct awareness campaigns targeted at potential donors to make them informed of their rights and the health and safety risks associated with organ removal in exchange for material benefits; and exchange experience and information relevant to the issue. The Commission requested UNODC to conduct a study on trafficking in human organs, based on the analysis of information provided by States, for consideration by the Commission at its twenty-fifth (2016) session. In that regard, it also invited UNODC to engage in a dialogue with relevant international intergovernmental organizations, in close consultation with States, to collect data and conduct an analysis of instances of organ trafficking and prosecutions of trafficking in organs, as well as to collect examples of applicable legislation. It encouraged Member States to provide relevant information to UNODC, and invited Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources.

UN standards and norms

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2014/30 & Add.1] had before it a February report [E/CN.15/2014/11], in which the Secretary-General described progress made by UNODC in 2013 to support the use and application of UN standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. The report outlined the development of new standards and norms and the Office's efforts to collect and analyse data, develop implementation tools and provide technical assistance at the global, regional and country levels. It also described the Office's partnerships for promoting intervention in crime prevention and criminal justice reform.

UNODC made progress in the development and promotion of the use and application of the UN standards and norms, which covered the following areas: persons in custody, non-custodial sanctions, juvenile justice and restorative justice; crime prevention and victim issues; and good governance, the independence of the judiciary and the integrity of criminal justice personnel. The standards and norms were also central to UN work on the rule of law and human rights, as they provided detailed guidance on various principles of human rights in the administration of justice. Through its thematic programme on crime prevention and criminal justice reform, implemented in over 40 countries, UNODC assisted Member States in developing new instruments, strategies, policies and programmes. Support included advocacy, research, legislative and legal support, norm-setting and technical assistance. During the reporting period, UNODC supported Member States in setting global standards in the areas of treatment of prisoners,

violence against children and gender-related killing of women and girls. Important normative developments included the revision of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners [YUN 1955, p. 209], and the development of model strategies and practical measures for the elimination of violence against children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. The Office continued to collect data on selected crimes and on the operation of justice systems through the UN Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems. The network of focal points to coordinate national responses to the Survey was extended, which resulted in coverage of more than 110 countries and an improved rate of response. UNODC also continued developing tools and handbooks, training curricula and guidance notes to provide sustained technical assistance in an increasing number of countries.

Treatment of prisoners

Standard minimum rules. By an April note [E/CN.15/2014/19 & Corr.1], the Secretariat informed CCPCJ about the work of the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, established in response to General Assembly resolution 65/230 [YUN 2010, p. 1095]. At its third meeting (Vienna, 25–28 March), the Expert Group considered for revision rules in the following thematic areas: respect for prisoners' inherent dignity and value as human beings; medical and health services; disciplinary action and punishment, including the role of medical staff, solitary confinement and reduction of diet; investigation of all deaths in custody, as well as any signs or allegations of torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of prisoners; protection and special needs of vulnerable groups deprived of their liberty, taking into consideration countries in difficult circumstances; the right of access to legal representation; complaints and independent inspection; and training of relevant staff to implement the Standard Minimum Rules. The Expert Group agreed on a series of recommendations for submission to the Commission's twenty-third (2014) session for consideration and further action.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 16 July [meeting 45], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2014/30], adopted **resolution 2014/16** without vote [agenda item 17 (c)].

Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

[For text, see General Assembly resolution 69/192 below.]

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 18 December [meeting 73], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/69/489], adopted **resolution 69/192** without vote [agenda item 105].

**Standard Minimum Rules for
the Treatment of Prisoners**

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principal purposes of the United Nations, as set out in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and inspired by the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, without distinction of any kind, and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Bearing in mind the long-standing concern of the United Nations for the humanization of criminal justice and the protection of human rights,

Aware that the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners remain the universally acknowledged minimum standards for the detention of prisoners and that they have been of value and influence in the development of correctional laws, policies and practices since their adoption by the First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, in 1955,

Mindful that, in the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World, Member States recognized that an effective, fair, accountable and humane criminal justice system was based on the commitment to uphold the protection of human rights in the administration of justice and the prevention and control of crime, and acknowledged the value and impact of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in designing and implementing national crime prevention and criminal justice policies, laws, procedures and programmes,

Taking into account the progressive development of international standards pertaining to the treatment of prisoners since 1955, including in international instruments such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol thereto, and other relevant United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice related to the treatment of prisoners, namely, the procedures for the effective implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment, the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, the Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners, the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Of-

ficials, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules), the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty, the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines), the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules), the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) and the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,

Mindful of its resolution 67/166 of 20 December 2012 on human rights in the administration of justice, in which it recognized the importance of the principle that persons deprived of their liberty shall retain their non-derogable human rights and all other human rights and fundamental freedoms, except for those lawful limitations that are demonstrably necessitated by the fact of incarceration, and took note of general comment No. 21 on the humane treatment of persons deprived of their liberty, adopted by the Human Rights Committee, as well as Human Rights Council resolution 24/12 of 26 September 2013, in which the Council noted the work of the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, reiterating that any changes should not lower any existing standards but should reflect recent advances in correctional science and best practices,

Recalling its resolution 65/230 of 21 December 2010, in which it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to establish an open-ended intergovernmental expert group to exchange information on best practices, as well as national legislation and existing international law, and on the revision of existing United Nations standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners so that they reflect recent advances in correctional science and best practices, with a view to making recommendations to the Commission on possible next steps, and requested the Expert Group to report to the Commission on progress in its work,

Recalling also its resolutions 67/188 of 20 December 2012 and 68/190 of 18 December 2013, entitled “Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners”, as well as its resolution 68/156 of 18 December 2013, entitled “Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment”, in particular paragraph 38 thereof,

Recalling further that, in its resolution 67/184 of 20 December 2012 on follow-up to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, it decided that one of the workshops to be held within the framework of the Thirteenth Congress would be devoted to the topic “Role of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems: experiences and lessons learned in meeting the unique needs of women and children, in particular the treatment and social reintegration of offenders”,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the further progress made during the third meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, held in Vienna from 25 to 28 March 2014;

2. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Brazil for its financial support for the third meeting of the Expert Group;

3. *Acknowledges* the work done by the Expert Group at its previous meetings, held in Vienna from 31 January to 2 February 2012 and in Buenos Aires from 11 to 13 December 2012;

4. *Also acknowledges* the work accomplished by the Secretariat in preparing the relevant documentation, in particular the working paper for the third meeting, as well as the determined progress achieved at the meetings of the Expert Group in reviewing the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners;

5. *Expresses appreciation* for the important submissions and suggestions of Member States pursuant to the request to exchange information on best practices and on the revision of the existing Standard Minimum Rules, as reflected in the working paper submitted to the Expert Group at its third meeting;

6. *Reiterates* that any changes to the Standard Minimum Rules should not lower any of the existing standards, but should reflect the recent advances in correctional science and good practices so as to promote safety, security and humane conditions for prisoners;

7. *Recognizes* the need for the Expert Group to continue to take into account the social, legal and cultural specificities, as well as human rights obligations, of Member States;

8. *Notes* that the revision process should maintain the existing scope of application of the Standard Minimum Rules;

9. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the important contributions received from the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as other submissions received for consideration from a number of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and invites them in this regard to continue to be actively involved in the Expert Group process, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council;

10. *Acknowledges* that the revision of the Standard Minimum Rules is a time-intensive exercise of crucial importance, emphasizes that efforts should be made to finalize the revision process, building on the recommendations made at the three meetings of the Expert Group and the submissions of Member States, for consideration at the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Doha in 2015, and also emphasizes that the concern for a speedy process should not compromise the quality of the outcome;

11. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Expert Group, authorizing it to continue its work, with the aim of reaching a consensus, and to present a report to the Thirteenth Congress, for the information of the workshop on the role of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems, and to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-fourth session for consideration, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the required services and support are provided;

12. *Invites* the bureau of the third meeting of the Expert Group to continue to be involved in the revision of the rules by preparing, with the assistance of the Secretariat, a revised consolidated working paper, in all official languages of the United Nations, consisting of the draft revised rules, which should reflect the progress achieved so far, including the recommendations made by the Expert Group at its meetings held in Buenos Aires in 2012 and in Vienna in 2014, also taking into account proposals for revision put forward by Member States in relation to the areas and rules identified by the General Assembly in paragraph 6 of its resolution 67/188, for submission to and consideration by the Expert Group at its next meeting;

13. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of South Africa for its intention to host the next meeting of the Expert Group, and welcomes any support, in particular financial support, that other interested countries and organizations may wish to provide;

14. *Invites* Member States to actively participate in the next meeting of the Expert Group and to include in their delegations persons with a variety of expertise from relevant disciplines;

15. *Encourages* Member States to improve conditions in detention, consistent with the principles of the Standard Minimum Rules and all other relevant and applicable international standards and norms, to continue exchanging good practices, such as those regarding conflict resolution in detention facilities, including in the area of technical assistance, to identify challenges faced in implementing the Rules and share their experiences in dealing with those challenges and to provide relevant information in that regard to their experts participating in the Expert Group;

16. *Also encourages* Member States to promote the implementation of the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), as well as the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty;

17. *Recommends* that Member States continue to endeavour to reduce prison overcrowding and, where appropriate, resort to non-custodial measures as alternatives to pretrial detention, to promote increased access to justice and legal defence mechanisms, to reinforce alternatives to imprisonment and to support rehabilitation and reintegration programmes, in accordance with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules);

18. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to continue to promote the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice by, inter alia, providing advisory services and technical assistance to Member States, on request, including assistance in crime prevention, criminal justice and law reform, and in the organization of training for law enforcement, crime prevention and criminal justice personnel and support in the administration and management of penal and penitentiary systems, thus contributing to the upgrading of their efficiency and capabilities;

19. *Reaffirms* the important role of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in contributing to the dissemination, pro-

motion and practical application of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, in accordance with the procedures for their effective implementation;

20. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes outlined in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Violence against children

Model strategies and practical measures. On 15 May [E/CN.15/2014/14], CCPCJ considered a March report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on the development of a draft set of model strategies and practical measures on the elimination of violence against children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice (Bangkok, Thailand, 18–21 February), convened pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/189 [YUN 2013, p. 1258]. Annexed to the report was the draft set of model strategies and practical measures, as submitted by the expert group. On 27 May [E/CN.15/2014/14/Rev.1], the Secretary-General's report was reissued with the final text of the model strategies and practical measures, as amended by the Commission. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures were grouped into three categories: prohibiting violence against children, implementing prevention measures and promoting research and data collection; enhancing the capacity of the criminal justice system to respond to violence against children and protect child victims; and preventing and responding to violence against children within the justice system.

In a June note [A/69/88], the Secretary-General transmitted his May report to the General Assembly. On 18 December (**decision 69/537**), the General Assembly took note of the Secretary-General's note.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 16 July [meeting 45], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2014/30], adopted **resolution 2014/18** without vote [agenda item 17 (d)].

United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

[For text, see General Assembly resolution 69/194 below.]

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 18 December [meeting 73], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee [A/69/489], adopted **resolution 69/194** without vote [agenda item 105].

United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and all other relevant international and regional treaties,

Recalling also the numerous international standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular on juvenile justice, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules), the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines), the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty, the Guidelines for Action on Children in the Criminal Justice System, the Guidelines on Justice in Matters Involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), the updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime, the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems, the guidelines for cooperation and technical assistance in the field of urban crime prevention, the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, the Guidelines for the Effective Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials,

Recalling further its relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Economic and Social Council, the Human Rights Council and the Commission on Human Rights,

Convinced that violence against children is never justifiable and that it is the duty of States to protect children, including those in conflict with the law, from all forms of violence and human rights violations and to exercise due diligence to prohibit, prevent and investigate acts of violence against children, eliminate impunity and provide assistance to the victims, including prevention of revictimization,

Acknowledging the value of the joint report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children on prevention of and responses to violence against children within the juvenile justice system, the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on access to justice for children and the joint report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children on accessible and child-sensitive counselling, complaint and reporting mechanisms to address incidents of violence,

Noting with appreciation the important work on child rights in the context of crime prevention and criminal justice conducted by United Nations agencies, funds and

programmes, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the High Commissioner and the United Nations Children's Fund, and by the Special Representative and relevant mandate holders and treaty bodies, and welcoming the active participation of civil society in this field of work,

Emphasizing that children, by reason of their physical and mental development, face particular vulnerabilities and need special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection,

Emphasizing also that children in contact with the justice system as victims, witnesses or alleged or recognized offenders must be treated in a child-sensitive manner and with respect for their rights, dignity and needs,

Stressing that the right for all to have access to justice and the provision that child victims or witnesses of violence and children and juveniles in conflict with the law are entitled to the same legal guarantees and protection as are accorded to adults, including all fair trial guarantees, form an important basis for strengthening the rule of law through the administration of justice,

Recognizing the complementary roles of crime prevention, the criminal justice system, child protection agencies and the health, education and social sectors, as well as civil society, in creating a protective environment and preventing and responding to incidents of violence against children,

Being aware of the different economic, social and cultural contexts of crime prevention and criminal justice prevailing in each Member State,

Recalling its resolution 68/189 of 18 December 2013, in which it requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to convene a meeting of an open-ended intergovernmental expert group, in collaboration with all relevant United Nations entities, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the High Commissioner and the Special Representative, to develop a draft set of model strategies and practical measures on the elimination of violence against children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, to be considered by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its session following the meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group,

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence against children, reaffirms the duty of the State to protect children from all forms of violence in both public and private settings, and calls for the elimination of impunity, including by investigating and prosecuting, with due process, and punishing all perpetrators;

2. *Expresses its extreme concern* about the secondary victimization of children that may occur within the justice system, and reaffirms the responsibility of States to protect children from this form of violence;

3. *Welcomes* the work done at the meeting of the expert group on the development of draft model strategies and practical measures on the elimination of violence against children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, held in Bangkok from 18 to 21 February 2014, and takes note with appreciation of its report;

4. *Adopts* the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice annexed to the present resolution;

5. *Urges* Member States to take all necessary and effective measures, as appropriate, to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children who come in contact with the justice system as victims, witnesses or alleged or recognized offenders, and to provide for consistency in their laws and policies and in the application thereof in order to promote the implementation of the Model Strategies and Practical Measures;

6. *Also urges* Member States to remove any barrier, including any kind of discrimination, that children may face in accessing justice and in effectively participating in criminal proceedings, to pay particular attention to the issue of the rights of the child and the child's best interests in the administration of justice and to ensure that children in contact with the criminal justice system are treated in a child-sensitive manner, taking into account the specific needs of those children who are in particularly vulnerable situations;

7. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet integrated crime prevention and children's issues into their overall rule of law efforts to do so, and to develop and implement a comprehensive crime prevention and justice system policy, with a view to preventing the involvement of children in criminal activities, promoting the use of alternative measures to detention, such as diversion and restorative justice, adopting reintegration strategies for former child offenders and complying with the principle that deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, as well as to avoid, wherever possible, the use of pretrial detention for children;

8. *Encourages* Member States, where appropriate, to strengthen multisectoral coordination among all relevant government agencies in order to better prevent, identify and respond to the multidimensional nature of violence against children and to ensure that criminal justice and other relevant professionals are adequately trained to deal with children;

9. *Also encourages* Member States to establish and strengthen child rights monitoring and accountability systems, as well as mechanisms for the systematic research, collection and analysis of data on violence against children and on the systems designed to address violence against children, with a view to assessing the scope and incidence of such violence and the impact of policies and measures adopted to reduce it;

10. *Stresses* the importance of preventing incidents of violence against children and of responding in a timely manner to support child victims of violence, including to prevent their revictimization, and invites Member States to adopt knowledge-based, comprehensive and multisectoral prevention strategies and policies to address the factors that give rise to violence against children and that expose them to the risk of violence;

11. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to take steps to ensure the broad dissemination of the Model Strategies and Practical Measures;

12. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, at the request of Member States, to identify the needs and capacities of countries and to provide technical assistance and advisory services to Member States in order to develop or strengthen, as appropriate, legislation, procedures, policies and practices to prevent and respond to

violence against children and to ensure respect for the rights of the child in the administration of justice;

13. *Further requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to closely coordinate with the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme and with other relevant national and regional institutes with a view to developing training materials and offering training and other capacity-building opportunities, in particular for practitioners working in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice and for providers of support services for the victims of violence against children and for child witnesses within the criminal justice system, and to disseminate information on successful practices;

14. *Invites* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Human Rights Council, as well as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and relevant regional and international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to strengthen cooperation in supporting the efforts of States to eliminate all forms of violence against children;

15. *Encourages* Member States to promote country-to-country, regional and interregional technical cooperation in sharing best practices in the implementation of the Model Strategies and Practical Measures;

16. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for the purposes outlined in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

ANNEX

United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Introduction

1. The United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice have been prepared to help Member States to address the need for integrated strategies for violence prevention and child protection, thereby offering children the protection to which they have an unqualified right.

2. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures take into consideration the complementary roles of the justice system on the one hand, and the child protection, social welfare, health and education sectors on the other, in creating a protective environment and in preventing and responding to violence against children. They draw attention to the need for Member States to ensure that criminal law is used appropriately and effectively to criminalize various forms of violence against children, including forms of violence prohibited by international law. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures will enable criminal justice institutions to strengthen and focus their efforts to prevent and respond to violence against children, and to increase their diligence in investigating, convicting and rehabilitating perpetrators of violent crimes against children.

3. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures take into account the fact that children who are alleged as, ac-

cused of or recognized as having infringed criminal law, especially those who are deprived of their liberty, face a high risk of violence. Because special attention must be paid to the especially vulnerable situation of these children, the Model Strategies and Practical Measures are aimed at not only improving the effectiveness of the criminal justice system in preventing and responding to violence against children, but also at protecting children against any violence that may result from their contact with the justice system.

4. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures reflect the fact that some of the perpetrators of violence against children are themselves children and often victims of violence. The need to protect child victims in such instances cannot negate the rights of all of the children involved to have their best interests considered as a matter of primary importance.

5. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures are grouped into three broad categories: general prevention strategies to address violence against children as part of broader child protection and crime prevention initiatives; strategies and measures to improve the ability of the criminal justice system to respond to crimes of violence against children and to protect child victims effectively; and strategies and measures to prevent and respond to violence against children in contact with the justice system. Good practices are set forth, to be considered and used by Member States within the framework of their national legal systems in a manner consistent with applicable international instruments, including relevant human rights instruments, and taking into consideration relevant United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. Member States should be guided by the Model Strategies and Practical Measures to the maximum extent of their available resources and, where needed, within the framework of international cooperation.

Definitions

6. For the purposes of the Model Strategies and Practical Measures:

(a) "Child" means, as in article 1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, "every human being below the age of eighteen years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier";

(b) A "child protection system" refers to the national legal framework, formal and informal structures, functions and capacities to prevent and respond to violence against and abuse, exploitation and neglect of children;

(c) "Children in contact with the justice system" refers to children who come into contact with the justice system as victims or witnesses, children alleged as, accused of or recognized as having infringed criminal law, or children who are in any other situation requiring legal proceedings, for example regarding their care, custody or protection, including cases involving children of incarcerated parents;

(d) "Child-sensitive" denotes an approach that takes into consideration the child's right to protection and individual needs and views in accordance with the age and maturity of the child;

(e) "Child victims" denotes children who are victims of crime regardless of their role in the offence or in the prosecution of the alleged offender or group of offenders;

(f) "Crime prevention" comprises strategies and measures that seek to reduce the risk of crimes occurring

and their potential harmful effects on individuals and society, including fear of crime, by intervening to influence the multiple causes of crime;

(g) “Criminal justice system” refers to laws, procedures, professionals, authorities and institutions that apply to victims, witnesses and persons alleged as, accused of or recognized as having infringed criminal law;

(h) “Deprivation of liberty” means any form of detention or imprisonment or the placement of a person in a public or private custodial setting, from which that person is not permitted to leave at will, by order of any judicial, administrative or other public authority;

(i) “Diversion” refers to a process for dealing with children alleged as, accused of or recognized as having infringed criminal law as an alternative to judicial proceedings, with the consent of the child and the child’s parents or legal guardian;

(j) “Informal justice system” refers to the resolution of disputes and the regulation of conduct by adjudication or with the assistance of a neutral third party that is not part of the judiciary as established by law and/or whose substantive, procedural or structural foundation is not primarily based on statutory law;

(k) A “juvenile justice system” comprises laws, policies, guidelines, customary norms, systems, professionals, institutions and treatment specifically applicable to children alleged as, accused of or recognized as having infringed criminal law;

(l) “Legal aid” includes legal advice, assistance and representation for persons detained, arrested or imprisoned as a result of being suspected or accused of or charged with a criminal offence, and for victims and witnesses in the criminal justice process, which is provided at no cost for those without sufficient means or when the interests of justice so require. Furthermore, “legal aid” is intended to include the concepts of legal education, access to legal information and other services provided for persons through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and restorative justice processes;

(m) A “protective environment” is an environment conducive to ensuring to the maximum extent possible the survival and development of the child, including physical, mental, spiritual, moral, psychological and social development, in a manner compatible with human dignity;

(n) “Restorative justice programme” means any programme that uses restorative processes and seeks to achieve restorative outcomes;

(o) “Restorative process” means any process in which the victim and the offender and, where appropriate, any other individuals or community members affected by a crime participate actively together in the resolution of matters arising from the crime, generally with the help of a facilitator. Restorative processes may include mediation, conciliation, conferencing and sentencing circles;

(p) “Violence” means all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse.

Guiding principles

7. In implementing the Model Strategies and Practical Measures at the national level, Member States should be guided by the following principles:

(a) That the inherent rights of the child to life, survival and development are protected;

(b) That the right of the child to have his or her best interests as a primary consideration in all matters involving or affecting him or her is respected, whether the child is a victim or a perpetrator of violence, as well as in all measures of prevention and protection;

(c) That every child is protected from all forms of violence without discrimination of any kind, irrespective of the child’s or his or her parent’s or legal guardian’s race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status;

(d) That the child is informed of his or her rights in an age-appropriate manner and that the right of the child to be consulted and to express his or her views freely in all matters affecting him or her is fully respected;

(e) That all strategies and measures to prevent and respond to violence against children are designed and implemented from a gender perspective that specifically addresses gender-based violence;

(f) That the specific vulnerabilities of children and the situations they find themselves in, including children in need of special protection and children committing criminal offences under the age of criminal responsibility, should be addressed as part of comprehensive violence prevention strategies and identified as a priority for action;

(g) That measures to protect child victims of violence are non-coercive and do not compromise the rights of these children.

Part one

Prohibiting violence against children, implementing broad prevention measures and promoting research and data collection

8. Child protection should begin with the proactive prevention of violence and the explicit prohibition of all forms of violence. Member States have the duty to take appropriate measures that effectively protect children from all forms of violence.

I. Ensuring the prohibition by law of all forms of violence against children

9. Recognizing the importance of the existence of a sound legal framework which prohibits violence against children and empowers authorities to respond appropriately to incidents of violence, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments, to ensure:

(a) That their laws are comprehensive and effective in prohibiting and eliminating all forms of violence against children and that provisions that justify, allow for or condone violence against children or may increase the risk of violence against children are removed;

(b) That cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of children is prohibited and eliminated in all settings, including schools.

10. Because a countless number of girls and boys fall victim to harmful practices undertaken under different pretexts or grounds, including female genital mutilation or cutting, forced marriage, breast ironing and witchcraft rituals, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To establish by law a clear and comprehensive prohibition of all harmful practices against children, supported by detailed provisions in relevant legislation to secure the effective protection of girls and boys from those practices, to provide means of redress and to fight impunity;

(b) To remove from all national legislation any legal provisions that provide justification or allow for consent to harmful practices against children;

(c) To ensure that resorting to informal justice systems does not jeopardize children's rights or preclude child victims from accessing the formal justice system, and to establish the supremacy of international human rights law.

11. Recognizing the serious nature of many forms of violence against children and the need to criminalize these conducts, Member States should review and update their criminal law to ensure that the following acts are fully covered thereunder:

(a) Engaging in sexual activities with a child who is under the legal age of consent, ensuring as well that an appropriate "age of protection" or "legal age of consent", below which a child cannot legally consent to sexual activity, is set;

(b) Engaging in sexual activities with a child using coercion, force or threats, abusing a position of trust, authority or influence over a child, including within the family, and abusing a particularly vulnerable situation of a child, because of a mental or physical disability or a situation of dependence;

(c) Committing sexual violence against a child, including sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and sexual harassment through or facilitated by the use of new information technologies, including the Internet;

(d) The sale of or trafficking in children for any purpose and in any form;

(e) Offering, delivering or accepting, by whatever means, a child for the purpose of sexual exploitation of the child, transfer of organs of the child for profit or engagement of the child in forced labour;

(f) Offering, obtaining, procuring or providing a child for child prostitution;

(g) Producing, distributing, disseminating, importing, exporting, offering, selling or possessing child pornography;

(h) Slavery or practices similar to slavery, debt bondage and serfdom and forced labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;

(i) Committing gender-related violence against a child and, in particular, gender-related killing of girls.

II. Implementing comprehensive prevention programmes

12. General and context-specific measures should be developed by Member States to prevent violence against children. Prevention measures, building on a growing understanding of factors that give rise to violence against children and addressing the risks of violence to which children are exposed, should be part of a comprehensive strategy to eliminate violence against children. Criminal justice agencies, working together with, as appropriate, child protection, social welfare, health and education agencies and civil society organizations, should develop effective violence prevention programmes as part of both broader crime prevention programmes and initiatives to build a protective environment for children.

13. Preventing the victimization of children through all available means should be recognized as a crime prevention priority. Member States are therefore urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To strengthen existing child protection systems and to help to create a protective environment for children;

(b) To adopt measures to prevent violence within the family and the community, address cultural acceptance or tolerance of violence against children, including gender-related violence, and challenge harmful practices;

(c) To encourage and support the development and implementation at every level of government of comprehensive plans for the prevention of violence against children in all of its forms, based on in-depth analysis of the problem and incorporating:

(i) An inventory of existing policies and programmes;

(ii) Well-defined responsibilities for the relevant institutions, agencies and personnel involved in preventive measures;

(iii) Mechanisms for the appropriate coordination of preventive measures between governmental and non-governmental agencies;

(iv) Evidence-based policies and programmes that are continually monitored and carefully evaluated in the course of implementation;

(v) Parental capacity-building and family support as the primary preventive measures, while strengthening child protection in school and in the community;

(vi) Methods for effectively identifying, mitigating and reducing the risk of violence against children;

(vii) Public awareness-raising and community involvement in prevention policies and programmes;

(viii) Close interdisciplinary cooperation, with the involvement of all relevant agencies, civil society groups, local and religious leaders and, where relevant, other stakeholders;

(ix) Participation of children and families in policies and programmes for the prevention of criminal activities and victimization;

(d) To identify the specific vulnerabilities and risks faced by children in different situations and to adopt proactive measures to reduce those risks;

(e) To take appropriate actions to support and protect all children, in particular children in different situations of vulnerability and children in need of special protection;

(f) To be guided by the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime and play a leading role in developing effective crime prevention strategies and in creating and maintaining institutional frameworks for their implementation and review.

14. The risk of violence against children committed by children should be addressed by specific prevention measures, including measures:

(a) To prevent physical, psychological and sexual violence exerted, often through bullying, by children against other children;

(b) To prevent the violence sometimes exerted by groups of children, including violence by youth gangs;

(c) To prevent the recruitment, use and victimization of children by youth gangs;

(d) To identify and protect children, in particular girls, who are linked to gang members and who are vulnerable to sexual exploitation;

(e) To encourage law enforcement agencies to use multi-agency intelligence to proactively profile local risk and, accordingly, to direct enforcement and disruption activity.

15. The risk of violence associated with trafficking in children and various forms of exploitation by criminal groups should be addressed by specific prevention measures, including measures:

(a) To prevent the recruitment, use and victimization of children by criminal groups, terrorist entities or violent extremist groups;

(b) To prevent the sale of children, trafficking in children, child prostitution and child pornography;

(c) To prevent the production, possession and dissemination of images and all other materials that depict, glorify or incite violence against children, including when perpetrated by children, particularly through information technologies, such as the Internet, in particular social networking environments.

16. Broad public education and awareness campaigns are required. Member States, in cooperation with educational institutions, non-governmental organizations, relevant professional associations and the media, are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To implement and support effective public awareness and public education initiatives that prevent violence against children by promoting respect for their rights and by educating their families and communities about the harmful impact of violence;

(b) To raise awareness of how to prevent and respond to violence against children among persons who have regular contact with children in the justice, child protection, social welfare, health and education sectors and in areas relating to sport, culture and leisure activities;

(c) To encourage and support inter-agency cooperation in implementing violence prevention activities and programmes, planning and delivering public information campaigns, training professionals and volunteers, gathering data on the incidence of violence against children, monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of programmes and strategies and exchanging information on good practices and lessons learned;

(d) To encourage the private sector, in particular the information and communications technology sector, the tourism and travel industry and the banking and finance sectors, and civil society to participate in the development and implementation of policies to prevent the exploitation and abuse of children;

(e) To encourage the media to contribute to community efforts to prevent and respond to violence against children and to promote changes in social norms that tolerate such violence, and to encourage the establishment of media-led ethical guidelines that will allow child-friendly coverage and reportage on cases involving child victims of abuse, exploitation, neglect and discrimination, taking into consideration the right of children to privacy;

(f) To involve children, their families, communities, local leaders, religious leaders and criminal justice and

other relevant professionals in discussing the impact and detrimental effects of violence against children and ways to prevent violence and eliminate harmful practices;

(g) To challenge attitudes that condone or normalize violence against children, including the tolerance and acceptance of corporal punishment and harmful practices, and the acceptance of violence.

17. In order to address the vulnerability and the specific risks of violence faced by unaccompanied children, migrant children and children who are refugees or asylum seekers, Member States are urged, as appropriate and without prejudice to their obligations under international law:

(a) To ensure that these children have access to independent assistance, advocacy and advice, that they are always placed in appropriate accommodation and treated in a manner that is fully compatible with their best interests, that they are separated from adults when necessary to protect them and, when applicable, to sever relationships with smugglers and traffickers, and that a legally appointed representative is available from the moment an unaccompanied child is detected by the authorities;

(b) To conduct regular analyses of the nature of the threats faced by these children and to assess their needs for assistance and protection;

(c) To uphold the principle of burden-sharing and solidarity with the host country and to enhance international cooperation.

III. Promoting research and data collection, analysis and dissemination

18. Member States, the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, relevant entities of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations, research institutes, non-governmental organizations and professional associations are urged, as appropriate:

(a) To set up and strengthen mechanisms for the systematic and coordinated collection of data on violence against children, including on violence against children in contact with the justice system;

(b) To monitor and publish periodic reports on cases of violence against children reported to the police and other criminal justice agencies, including the number of cases, apprehension or arrest and clearance rates, prosecution and case disposition with regard to the alleged offenders and the prevalence of violence against children and, in so doing, to make use of data derived from population-based surveys. The reports should disaggregate data by type of violence and include, for example, information on the age and sex of the alleged offender and his or her relationship to the victim;

(c) To develop a multilevel system of reporting, starting from the most basic unit of government to the national level and to allow, in accordance with national legislation, the exchange of relevant information, statistics and data among all relevant institutions to help to ensure comprehensive data gathering for policy and programme development that will promote child protection;

(d) To develop population-based surveys and child-sensitive methodologies aimed at collecting data regarding children, including crime and victimization surveys, to allow for assessment of the nature and extent of violence against children;

(e) To develop and implement indicators relating to the performance of the justice system in preventing and responding to violence against children;

(f) To develop and monitor indicators relating to the prevalence of violence against children in contact with the justice system;

(g) To evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the justice system in meeting the needs of child victims of violence and preventing such violence, including with regard to the way in which the justice system treats child victims of violence, the use it makes of different intervention models and the degree to which it cooperates with other agencies responsible for the protection of children, and also to evaluate and assess the impact of current legislation, rules and procedures relating to violence against children;

(h) To collect, analyse and disseminate data on independent inspections of places of detention, access to complaint mechanisms by children in detention and outcomes of complaints and investigations in accordance with the obligations of States under international human rights law;

(i) To use research studies and data collection to inform policy and practice and to exchange and disseminate information concerning successful violence prevention practices;

(j) To encourage and provide sufficient financial support for research on violence against children;

(k) To ensure that data, periodic reports and research are aimed at supporting the efforts of Member States to address violence against children and are used in the framework of constructive cooperation and dialogue with and among Member States.

Part two

Enhancing the ability and capacity of the criminal justice system to respond to violence against children and protect child victims

IV. Establishing effective detection and reporting mechanisms

19. In order to respond to the need to detect and report acts of violence against children, Member States are urged, as appropriate:

(a) To ensure that measures are taken to identify risk factors for different types of violence and identify signs of actual violence in order to trigger appropriate intervention as early as possible;

(b) To ensure that criminal justice professionals who routinely come into contact with children in the course of their work are aware of risk factors and indicators of various forms of violence, in particular at the national level, and that they have received guidance and are trained on how to interpret such indicators and have the knowledge, willingness and ability necessary to take appropriate action, including the provision of immediate protection;

(c) To legally require professionals who routinely come into contact with children in the course of their work to notify appropriate authorities if they suspect that a child is, or is likely to become, a victim of violence;

(d) To ensure that safe child- and gender-sensitive approaches, procedures and complaint, reporting and counselling mechanisms are established by law, are in conformity with the obligations of Member States under

the relevant international human rights instruments, take into account relevant international standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice and are easily accessible to all children and their representative or a third party without fear of reprisal or discrimination;

(e) To ensure that individuals, and in particular children, reporting in good faith alleged incidents of violence against children are protected against all forms of reprisal;

(f) To work with Internet service providers, mobile telephone companies, search engines, public Internet facilities and others to facilitate and, where feasible, enact appropriate legislative measures to ensure the reporting of any representation, by whatever means, of a child engaged in real or simulated explicit sexual activities or any representation of the sexual parts of a child for primarily sexual purposes, defined as child pornography under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child Pornography to the police or other authorized bodies and the blocking of access to websites where such material is available or the deletion of illegal content, and to keep records, in accordance with the law, and preserve evidence for a period of time and as determined by law for the purpose of investigation and prosecution.

V. Offering effective protection to child victims of violence

20. In order to more effectively protect child victims of violence through the criminal justice process and avoid their secondary victimization, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments, to take appropriate measures:

(a) To ensure that laws clearly define the roles and responsibilities of government departments and define standards for the actions of other institutions, services and facilities responsible for the detection of violence against children and the care and protection of children, in particular in cases of domestic violence;

(b) To ensure that police and other law enforcement agencies have, with judicial authorization where required by national law, adequate powers to enter premises and conduct arrests in cases of violence against children and to take immediate measures to ensure the safety of the children;

(c) To ensure that police, prosecutors, judges and all other relevant professionals who may be in contact with child victims respond promptly to incidents of violence against children and that relevant cases are managed expeditiously and efficiently;

(d) To ensure that criminal justice and other relevant professionals, in dealing with cases of child victims of violence, pay particular attention to child- and gender-sensitive approaches, including through the use of modern technologies in different stages of criminal investigations and criminal proceedings;

(e) To ensure that national standards, procedures and protocols are developed and implemented among relevant national actors in order to respond with sensitivity to child victims of violence whose physical or psychological integrity remains at serious risk and requires their urgent removal from the dangerous context, and that temporary protection and care are provided in an appropriate place of

safety pending a full determination of the best interests of the child;

(f) To ensure that the police, courts and other competent authorities have the legal authority to issue and enforce protection measures such as restraining or barring orders in cases of violence against children, including removal of the perpetrator from the domicile and prohibiting further contact with the victim and other affected parties inside and outside the domicile, as well as to impose penalties for breaches of those orders in accordance with national legislation, and to ensure that, when the child victim of violence remains under the care and protection of the non-abusive parent, the parent can safeguard the child and that such protective measures are not dependent on the initiation of criminal proceedings;

(g) To ensure that a registration system is established for judicial protection and restraining or barring orders, where such orders are permitted by national law, so that police and other criminal justice officials can quickly determine whether such an order is in force;

(b) To ensure that an informal or mediated settlement of cases involving violence against children takes place only when it is in the best interests of the child, and does not involve harmful practices, such as forced marriage, taking into account any power imbalance and the vulnerability of the child or his or her family in consenting to a settlement, with due regard for any future risk to the safety of the child or other children;

(i) To ensure that child victims of violence and their families have access to appropriate mechanisms or procedures in order to obtain redress and reparation, including from the State, and that relevant information about those mechanisms is publicized and easily accessible.

21. Recognizing the fact that, for prosecutions to be effective, it is often necessary for child victims of violence to participate in the criminal justice process, that in some jurisdictions children can be required or compelled to testify and that these children are vulnerable and in need of special protection, assistance and support in order to prevent further hardship and trauma that may result from their participation in the criminal justice process, Member States are required in this regard to ensure that the child's privacy is fully respected at all stages of the proceedings and are urged, as appropriate:

(a) To ensure the availability for children of special services, physical and mental health care and protection that take into account gender and are appropriate to the age, level of maturity and needs of the child in order to prevent further hardship and trauma and promote the physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of child victims of violence;

(b) To ensure that children who have been subjected to sexual abuse, and especially girls who have become pregnant or children living with HIV/AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases as a result of the abuse, receive age-appropriate medical advice and counselling and are provided with the requisite physical and mental health care and support;

(c) To ensure that child victims receive assistance from support persons commencing at the initial report and continuing until such services are no longer required;

(d) To ensure that professionals who are responsible for assisting child victims make every effort to coordinate support to avoid unnecessary procedures and limit the number of interviews.

VI. Ensuring effective investigation and prosecution of incidents of violence against children

22. In order to effectively investigate and prosecute incidents of violence against children and bring the perpetrators to justice, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To ensure that the primary responsibility for initiating investigations and prosecutions lies with the police, the prosecution and other competent authorities and does not require an official complaint to be filed by the child victim of violence or a parent or legal guardian of the child;

(b) To adopt and implement policies and programmes aimed at guiding all decisions concerning the prosecution of offences of violence against children and ensuring the fairness, integrity and effectiveness of such decisions;

(c) To ensure that the applicable laws, policies, procedures, programmes and practices related to violence against children are consistently and effectively implemented by the criminal justice system;

(d) To ensure that child-sensitive investigation procedures are adopted and implemented so as to ensure that violence against children is correctly identified and to help provide evidence for administrative, civil and criminal proceedings, while according due assistance to children with special needs;

(e) To develop and implement policies and appropriate responses regarding the investigation and collection of evidence, in particular bodily samples, that take into account the needs and views of child victims of violence in accordance with the age and maturity of child victims, respect their dignity and integrity and minimize intrusion into their lives, while abiding by national standards for the collection of evidence;

(f) To ensure that the persons investigating alleged incidents of violence against children have the duty, powers and necessary authorization to obtain all the information necessary to the investigation, in accordance with criminal procedure as laid out in national law, and have at their disposal all the budgetary and technical resources necessary for effective investigation;

(g) To ensure that great care is taken to avoid subjecting a child victim of violence to further harm through the process of the investigation, including by inviting and giving due weight to the child's views in accordance with the age and maturity of the child and adopting child-sensitive and gender-sensitive investigation and prosecution practices;

(h) To ensure that decisions on the apprehension or arrest, detention and terms of any form of release of an alleged perpetrator of violence against a child take into account the need for the safety of the child and others related to the child, and that such procedures also prevent further acts of violence.

VII. Enhancing cooperation among various sectors

23. Acknowledging the complementary roles of the criminal justice system, child protection agencies, health, education and social service sectors and, in some cases, informal justice systems in creating a protective environment and preventing and responding to incidents of violence against children, Member States are urged, as appropriate:

(a) To ensure effective coordination and cooperation among the criminal justice, child protection, social welfare,

health and education sectors in detecting, reporting and responding to violence against children and protecting and assisting child victims;

(b) To establish stronger operational links, particularly in emergency situations, between health and social service agencies, both public and private, and criminal justice agencies for the purposes of reporting, recording and responding appropriately to acts of violence against children, while protecting the privacy of child victims of violence;

(c) To establish stronger links between informal justice systems and justice and child protection institutions;

(d) To develop information systems and inter-agency protocols to facilitate the exchange of information and enable cooperation in identifying incidents of violence against children, responding to them, protecting child victims of violence and holding perpetrators accountable, in accordance with national laws on data protection;

(e) To ensure that violent acts against children, when suspected by health and social services or child protection agencies, are promptly reported to the police and other law enforcement agencies;

(f) To promote the establishment of specialized units specifically trained to deal with the complexities and sensitivities relating to child victims of violence, from which victims can receive comprehensive assistance, protection and intervention services, including health and social services, legal aid and police assistance and protection;

(g) To ensure that adequate medical, psychological, social and legal services sensitive to the needs of child victims of violence are in place to enhance the criminal justice management of cases involving violence against children, to encourage the development of specialized health services, including comprehensive, free and confidential forensic examinations by trained health providers and appropriate treatment, including HIV-specific treatment, and to facilitate and support inter-agency referrals of child victims for services;

(h) To provide support to children whose parents or caregivers are deprived of liberty in order to prevent and address the risk of violence such children may be exposed to as a result of the parents' or caregiver's actions or situation.

VIII. Improving criminal proceedings in matters involving child victims of violence

24. With respect to criminal proceedings in matters involving child victims of violence, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To ensure that comprehensive services are provided and protection measures are taken to ensure the safety, privacy and dignity of victims and their families at all stages of the criminal justice process, without prejudice to the ability or willingness of the victim to participate in an investigation or prosecution, and to protect them from intimidation and retaliation;

(b) To ensure that the child's views are given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child, that the child is provided the opportunity to participate fully in any judicial and administrative proceedings, that every child is treated as a capable witness and that his or her testimony is not presumed to be invalid or untrustworthy by reason of the child's age alone, as long as the court or other competent authority deems that his

or her age and maturity allow the giving of intelligible and credible testimony, with or without communication aids and other assistance;

(c) To ensure, in appropriate cases, that child victims of violence are not required to testify as part of the criminal justice process without the knowledge of their parents or legal guardians, that a child's refusal to testify does not constitute a criminal or other offence and that child victims of violence are able to testify in criminal proceedings through adequate measures and child-friendly practices that facilitate such testimony by protecting their privacy, identity and dignity, ensuring their safety before, during and after legal proceedings, avoiding secondary victimization and respecting their need and legal right to be heard while recognizing the legal rights of the accused;

(d) To ensure that child victims of violence, their parents or legal guardians and legal representatives, from the first contact with the justice system and throughout the judicial proceedings, are promptly and adequately informed of, *inter alia*, the rights of the child, the relevant procedures, available legal aid and the progress and disposition of the specific case;

(e) To ensure that the child victim's parents or legal guardian and, where appropriate, a child protection professional accompany the child during interviews conducted as part of the investigation and during trial proceedings, *inter alia*, while testifying as a witness, except in the following circumstances, as dictated by the best interests of the child:

(i) The parent(s) or the legal guardian are the alleged perpetrator(s) of the offence committed against the child;

(ii) The court deems that it is not in the best interests of the child to be accompanied by his or her parent(s) or legal guardian, including on the basis of credible concern expressed by the child;

(f) To ensure that proceedings relevant to the testimony of the child are explained to the child and conducted in language that is simple and comprehensible to the child and that interpretation into language that the child understands is made available;

(g) To protect the privacy of child victims of violence as a matter of primary importance, to protect them from undue exposure to the public, for example by excluding the public and the media from the courtroom during the child's testimony, and to protect information relating to a child's involvement in the justice process by maintaining confidentiality and restricting disclosure of information that may lead to identification of the child;

(h) To ensure, within the framework of national legal systems, that criminal proceedings involving child victims take place as soon as possible, unless delays are in the child's best interest;

(i) To provide for the use of child-sensitive procedures, including interview rooms designed for children, interdisciplinary services for child victims integrated within the same location, modified court environments that take child witnesses into consideration, recesses during a child's testimony, hearings scheduled at times of day appropriate to the age and maturity of the child, an appropriate notification system to ensure that the child goes to court only when necessary and other appropriate measures to facilitate the child's testimony;

(j) To ensure that, when child victims of violence may be the subject of intimidation, threats or harm, appropriate

conditions are put in place to ensure their safety and that protective measures are taken, such as:

- (i) Preventing direct contact between a child victim and the accused at any point during the criminal justice process;
- (ii) Requesting restraining orders from a competent court, supported by a registry system;
- (iii) Requesting a pretrial detention order for the accused from a competent court, with “no contact” bail conditions;
- (iv) Requesting an order from a competent court to place the accused under house arrest if necessary;
- (v) Requesting protection for a child victim by the police or other relevant agencies and safeguarding the whereabouts of the child from disclosure.

25. Recognizing the serious nature of violence against children and taking into account the severity of the physical and psychological harm caused to child victims, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments, to ensure, when informal justice systems are resorted to, that violence against children is appropriately denounced and deterred, that perpetrators of violence against children are held accountable for their actions and that redress, support and compensation for child victims is provided.

26. Recognizing that measures to protect and assist child victims of violence must continue after the person accused of that violence has been convicted and sentenced, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

- (a) To ensure the right of a child victim of violence, or his or her parents or legal guardian, to be notified of the offender’s release from detention or imprisonment if they so wish;
- (b) To develop, implement and evaluate treatment and reintegration and rehabilitation programmes for those convicted of violence against children that prioritize the safety of victims and the prevention of recidivism;
- (c) To ensure that judicial and correctional authorities, as appropriate, monitor compliance by perpetrators with any treatment or other court order;
- (d) To ensure that the risk to a child victim of violence and the best interests of that child are considered at the time of making decisions concerning the release of the offender from detention or imprisonment or the re-entry of the offender into society.

IX. Ensuring that sentencing reflects the serious nature of violence against children

27. Recognizing the serious nature of violence against children, while taking into account the fact that the perpetrators of that violence may also be children, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

- (a) To ensure that offences involving violence against children are, by law, punishable by appropriate penalties that take into account their grave nature;
- (b) To ensure that national law takes into account specific factors which may aggravate a crime, including the age of the victim, the fact that the victim is severely handicapped mentally or intellectually, repeated violent acts, abuse of a position of trust or authority and perpetra-

tion of violence against a child in a close relationship with the offender;

- (c) To ensure that people who commit acts of violence against children while under the influence of alcohol, drugs or other substances are not exempt from criminal responsibility;
- (d) To ensure that individuals can be prohibited or restrained by a court order or other means, within the framework of the national legal system, from harassing, intimidating or threatening children;
- (e) To ensure that safety risks, including the vulnerability of victims, are taken into account in decisions concerning non-custodial sentences, bail, conditional release, parole or probation, especially when dealing with repeat and dangerous offenders;
- (f) To make available to the courts, through legislation, a full range of sentencing dispositions to protect the victim, other affected persons and society from further violence, and to rehabilitate the perpetrator, as appropriate;
- (g) To review and update national law to ensure that the decisions made by the courts in cases involving violent offences against children:
 - (i) Denounce and deter violence against children;
 - (ii) Hold offenders accountable, with due regard to their age and maturity, for their acts involving violence against children;
 - (iii) Promote victim and community safety, including by separating the offender from the victim and, if necessary, from society;
 - (iv) Allow for the severity of the physical and psychological harm caused to the victim to be taken into consideration;
 - (v) Take into account the impact on victims and, if affected, their family members, of sentences imposed on perpetrators;
 - (vi) Provide reparations for harm caused as a result of the violence;
 - (vii) Promote the rehabilitation of the perpetrator, including by promoting a sense of responsibility in offenders and, where appropriate, rehabilitating and reintegrating perpetrators into the community.

X. Strengthening capacity and training of criminal justice professionals

28. Recognizing the responsibility of criminal justice professionals to prevent and respond to violence against children and to protect child victims of violence, as well as the need to facilitate and support this role, Member States are urged, as appropriate:

- (a) To take measures and allocate adequate resources to develop the capacity of professionals within the criminal justice system to actively prevent violence against children and to protect and assist child victims of violence;
- (b) To enable close cooperation, coordination and collaboration between criminal justice officials and other relevant professionals, especially those from the child protection, social welfare, health and education sectors;
- (c) To design and implement training programmes for criminal justice professionals on the rights of the child, in particular on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and international human rights law, and to provide information on appropriate ways to deal with all children, in particular those who might be subject to discrimination, and to

educate criminal justice professionals about the stages of child development, the process of cognitive development, the dynamics and nature of violence against children, the difference between regular peer groups and gangs, and the appropriate management of children who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs;

(d) To design and deliver guidance, information and training to informal justice system actors in order to ensure that their practices, legal interpretations and decisions comply with international human rights law and effectively protect children against all forms of violence;

(e) To design and implement mandatory, cross-cultural gender- and child-sensitivity training modules for criminal justice professionals on the unacceptability of all forms of violence against children and on the harmful impact on and consequences for all those who experience such violence;

(f) To ensure that criminal justice professionals receive adequate training and continuing education on all relevant national laws, policies and programmes, as well as relevant international legal instruments;

(g) To promote the development and use of specialized expertise among criminal justice professionals, including through the establishment, where possible, of specialized units or personnel and specialized courts or dedicated court time, and to ensure that all police officers, prosecutors, judges and other criminal justice professionals receive regular and institutionalized training to sensitize them to gender- and child-related issues and to build their capacity with regard to responding to violence against children;

(h) To ensure that criminal justice officials and other relevant authorities are adequately trained in their respective areas of competence:

(i) To identify and respond appropriately to the specific needs of child victims of violence;

(ii) To receive and treat all child victims of violence respectfully, with a view to preventing secondary victimization;

(iii) To handle complaints confidentially;

(iv) To conduct effective investigations of alleged incidents of violence against children;

(v) To interact with child victims in an age-appropriate and child- and gender-sensitive manner;

(vi) To conduct safety assessments and implement risk management measures;

(vii) To enforce protection orders;

(i) To support the development of codes of conduct for criminal justice professionals that prohibit violence against children, including safe complaint and referral procedures, and to encourage relevant professional associations to develop enforceable standards of practice and behaviour.

Part three

Preventing and responding to violence against children within the justice system

XI. Reducing the number of children in contact with the justice system

29. Recognizing the importance of avoiding the unnecessary criminalization and penalization of children, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments, to ensure that any conduct not considered a

criminal offence or not penalized if committed by an adult is also not considered a criminal offence and not penalized if committed by a child, in order to prevent the child's stigmatization, victimization and criminalization.

30. In this regard, Member States are encouraged not to set the minimum age of criminal responsibility at too low an age level, bearing in mind the emotional, mental and intellectual maturity of children, and in this respect reference is made to the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to increase the lower minimum age of criminal responsibility without exception to the age of 12 years as the absolute minimum age, and to continue to increase it to a higher age level.

31. Recognizing that an important and highly effective way of reducing the number of children in the justice system is through diversion measures, restorative justice programmes and the use of non-coercive treatment and education programmes as alternative measures to judicial proceedings, as well as the provision of support for families, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To consider diversion to community-based programmes and to provide police and other law enforcement officers, prosecutors and judges with options for diverting children away from the justice system, including warning and community work, to be applied in combination with restorative justice processes;

(b) To foster close cooperation among the justice, child protection, social welfare, health and education sectors, so as to promote the use and enhanced application of alternative measures to judicial proceedings and to detention;

(c) To consider designing and implementing restorative justice programmes for children as alternative measures to judicial proceedings;

(d) To consider the use of non-coercive treatment, education and assistance programmes as alternative measures to judicial proceedings and the development of alternative non-custodial interventions and effective social reintegration programmes.

XII. Preventing violence associated with law enforcement and prosecution activities

32. Mindful of the fact that police and other security forces can sometimes be responsible for acts of violence against children, Member States are urged, while taking into consideration relevant international legal instruments, to prevent abuse of power, arbitrary detention, corruption and extortion by police officers who target children and their families.

33. Member States are urged to effectively prohibit the use of all forms of violence, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to obtain information, extract confessions, coerce a child into acting as an informant or agent for the police, or engage a child in activities against his or her will.

34. Mindful of the fact that arrests and investigations are situations in which violence against children can occur, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To ensure that all arrests are conducted in conformity with the law, to limit the apprehension, arrest and detention of children to situations in which these measures

are necessary as a last resort, and to promote and implement, where possible, alternatives to arrest and detention, including summonses and notices to appear, in cases involving children as alleged perpetrators;

(b) To implement the principle that the apprehension or arrest of children should be conducted in a child-sensitive manner;

(c) To prohibit the use of firearms, electric shock weapons and violent methods to apprehend and arrest children, and to adopt measures and procedures that carefully limit and guide the use of force and instruments of restraint by the police while apprehending or arresting children;

(d) To require, ensure and monitor police compliance with the obligation to notify parents, legal guardians or caregivers immediately following the apprehension or arrest of a child;

(e) To ensure that, when considering whether a parent, legal guardian, legal representative or responsible adult or, when necessary, a child protection professional is to be present at, or to observe a child during, the interview or interrogation process, the best interests of the child as well as other relevant factors are taken into consideration;

(f) To ensure that children are informed of their rights and have prompt access to legal aid during police interrogation and while in police detention, and that they may consult their legal representative freely and fully confidentially;

(g) To review, evaluate and, where necessary, update national laws, policies, codes, procedures, programmes and practices to implement policies and strict procedures for searching children while respecting their privacy and dignity, for taking intimate and non-intimate samples from child suspects and for assessing the age and gender of a child;

(h) To implement measures to specifically prevent violence related to unlawful practices by the police, including arbitrary arrests and detention and extrajudicial punishment of children for unlawful or unwanted behaviours;

(i) To establish accessible, child-appropriate and safe procedures for children to complain about incidents of violence during their arrest or interrogation or while in police custody;

(j) To ensure that alleged incidents of violence against children during their contact with the police are independently, promptly and effectively investigated and that those alleged to have been implicated in violence against children are removed from any position of control or power, whether direct or indirect, over complainants, witnesses and their families, as well as those conducting the investigation;

(k) To take measures to address the risk of violence and protect children during their transport to a court, hospital or other facility, including the risk of violence while being held in court holding cells together with adults;

(l) To ensure that, when a parent, legal guardian or caregiver is arrested, the child's best interests, care and other needs are taken into account.

XIII. Ensuring that deprivation of liberty is used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time

35. Recognizing that limiting the use of detention as a sentence and encouraging the use of alternatives to deten-

tion can help to reduce the risk of violence against children within the justice system, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) Not to deprive children of their liberty unlawfully or arbitrarily and, in cases of deprivation of liberty, to ensure that it is in conformity with the law and used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time;

(b) To ensure that children have continued access to government-funded legal aid during all stages of the justice process;

(c) To ensure that children can exercise their right to appeal a sentence and obtain the legal aid necessary to do so;

(d) To provide for the possibility of early release and make available aftercare and social reintegration programmes and services;

(e) To facilitate professional specialization, or at least specialized training, for criminal justice professionals dealing with children alleged as, accused of or recognized as having infringed criminal law.

XIV. Prohibiting torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

36. Recognizing that no child should be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, Member States are urged:

(a) To review, evaluate and, where necessary, update their national laws to effectively prohibit sentences involving any form of corporal punishment for crimes committed by children;

(b) To review, evaluate and, where necessary, update their national laws to ensure that, under legislation and practice, neither capital punishment nor life imprisonment without the possibility of release is imposed for offences committed by persons when they were under 18 years of age.

XV. Preventing and responding to violence against children in places of detention

37. Recognizing that the majority of children deprived of their liberty are in police custody or pretrial or preventive detention and that those children might be at risk of violence, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To ensure that children in police custody or pretrial or preventive detention can promptly appear before a court or tribunal to challenge that detention and that they have an opportunity to be heard either directly or through a representative or an appropriate body in a manner consistent with the procedural rules of national law, in order to obtain a prompt decision on any such action;

(b) To reduce delays in the justice process, to expedite trials and other proceedings involving children alleged as, accused of or recognized as having infringed criminal law, and to avoid the resulting prolonged or arbitrary detention of children while they await trial or the conclusion of a police investigation;

(c) To ensure the effective oversight and independent monitoring of all cases of police custody or pretrial or preventive detention of children;

(d) To endeavour to reduce pretrial detention by, inter alia, adopting legislative and administrative measures and policies on its preconditions, limitations, duration and alternatives and by taking measures aimed at the implementation of existing legislation, as well as by ensuring access to justice and legal aid.

38. Recognizing that, when children must be detained, the conditions of detention themselves can be conducive to various forms of violence against children, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To ensure that all detention facilities have adopted and implemented child-sensitive policies, procedures and practices, and to monitor compliance with them;

(b) To establish a maximum capacity for all places of detention and take concrete and sustained measures to address and reduce overcrowding in such institutions;

(c) To ensure that, in all places of detention, children are separated from adults and girls are separated from boys;

(d) To promote good practices in order to strengthen the protection and safety of children living in custody with an incarcerated parent, including consultation with the parents to determine their views regarding their child's care during the period of custody and the provision of special mother-and-child units or, where parents are detained for violation of immigration laws, separate family units in order to identify their special needs and accordingly provide appropriate protection;

(e) To facilitate the assessment and classification of children held in detention facilities in order to identify their special needs and accordingly provide appropriate protection and individualize treatment and interventions, including with respect to the specific needs of girls, and to ensure that there is a sufficient array of facilities to accommodate and adequately protect children of different ages or with differing needs;

(f) To ensure that treatment and support is offered to detained children with special needs, including to girls who are pregnant, give birth and/or raise children in detention, and that treatment for mental illness, disabilities, HIV/AIDS and other communicable and non-communicable diseases and drug addiction is offered, and to address the needs of children at risk of committing suicide or other forms of self-harm;

(g) To ensure that appropriate care and protection is provided to children accompanying a parent or legal guardian deprived of liberty on any ground, including for a violation of immigration law;

(h) To review, update and improve safety and security policies and practices within places of detention to reflect the obligation of the authorities to ensure the safety of children and protect them against all forms of violence, including violence among children;

(i) To prevent all forms of discrimination against or ostracism or stigmatization of detained children;

(j) To take strict measures to ensure that all alleged incidents of violence, including sexual abuse of children in a place of detention, are immediately reported and independently, promptly and effectively investigated by appropriate authorities and, when well founded, effectively prosecuted.

39. Recognizing also that it is imperative to minimize the risk of violence against children in detention, Member

States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To ensure that children in detention and their parents and/or legal guardians are aware of their rights and can access the mechanisms in place to protect those rights, including access to legal aid;

(b) To prohibit the use of placement in a dark cell or closed or solitary confinement or any other punishment that may compromise the physical or mental health of a child;

(c) To adopt and implement strict policies guiding the use of force and physical restraints on children during their detention;

(d) To adopt policies prohibiting the carrying and use of weapons by personnel in any facility where children are detained;

(e) To prohibit and effectively prevent the use of corporal punishment as a disciplinary measure, to adopt clear and transparent disciplinary policies and procedures that encourage the use of positive and educational forms of discipline and to establish in law the duty of managers and personnel of detention facilities to record, review and monitor every instance in which disciplinary measures or punishment are used;

(f) To prohibit any form of violence or threats of violence against children by staff of places of detention in order to force children to engage in activities against their will;

(g) To ensure the effective supervision and protection of children, as necessary, from violence by other children and adults, including through measures to prevent bullying by adults and by other children, and from self-harm;

(h) To prevent violence associated with youth gang activities and racist harassment and violence within places of detention;

(i) To encourage and facilitate, wherever possible and in the best interests of the child, frequent family visits and regular contact and communication between children and their family members, as well as with the outside world, and to ensure that disciplinary sanctions for detained children do not include a prohibition of contact with family members;

(j) To prevent violence against and abuse of children suffering from mental illness or drug addiction, including through treatment and other measures to protect them from self-harm.

40. Recognizing the importance of preventing violence against children through appropriate staff recruitment, selection, training and supervision, Member States are urged, as appropriate:

(a) To ensure that all personnel working with children in places of detention are qualified, selected on the basis of professional capacity, integrity, ability and personal suitability, sufficiently remunerated, adequately trained and effectively supervised;

(b) To ensure that any person who has been convicted of a criminal offence against a child is not eligible to work in an agency or organization providing services to children, and to require agencies and organizations providing services to children to prevent persons who have been convicted of a criminal offence against a child from coming into contact with children;

(c) To train all personnel and make them aware of their responsibility to identify early signs of risks of violence and mitigate that risk, to report incidents of violence against

children and to actively protect children against violence in an ethical and child- and gender-sensitive manner.

41. Taking into account the distinctive needs of girls and their vulnerability to gender-based violence, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To eliminate the risk of all forms of harassment, violence and discrimination against girls;

(b) To ensure that the special needs and vulnerabilities of girls are taken into account in decision-making processes;

(c) To ensure that the dignity of girls is respected and protected during personal searches, which shall only be carried out by female staff who have been properly trained in appropriate searching methods and in accordance with established procedures;

(d) To implement alternative screening methods, such as scans, to replace strip searches and invasive body searches in order to avoid the harmful psychological and possible physical impact of such searches;

(e) To adopt and implement clear policies and regulations on the conduct of staff aimed at providing maximum protection for girls deprived of their liberty from any physical or verbal violence, abuse or sexual harassment.

42. Recognizing the crucial importance of independent monitoring and inspection mechanisms, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To ensure effective monitoring of, regular access to and inspection of places of detention and community-based institutions by national independent bodies and national human rights institutions, ombudspersons or members of the judiciary, who are empowered to conduct unannounced visits, conduct interviews with children and staff in private and investigate allegations of violence;

(b) To ensure that they cooperate with relevant international and regional monitoring mechanisms that are legally entitled to visit institutions in which children are deprived of their liberty;

(c) To promote international cooperation with regard to best practices and lessons learned related to national monitoring and inspection mechanisms;

(d) To ensure that all deaths of children in detention facilities are reported and promptly and independently investigated, and to promptly endeavour, as appropriate, to investigate injuries suffered by children and ensure that their parents, legal guardian or closest relatives are informed.

XVI. Detecting, assisting and protecting children who are victims of violence as a result of their involvement with the justice system as alleged or sentenced offenders

43. Given the crucial importance of providing children who report abuse and incidents of violence within the justice system with immediate protection, support and counselling, Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international human rights instruments:

(a) To establish complaint mechanisms for child victims of violence within the justice system that are safe, confidential, effective and easily accessible;

(b) To ensure that children receive clear information, in particular when they first arrive in a place of detention, both verbally and in writing, about their rights, relevant

procedures, how they can exercise their right to be heard and listened to, effective remedies to address incidents of violence and available services for assistance and support, as well as information on seeking compensation for damages, that such information is age- and culturally appropriate and child- and gender-sensitive, and that parents and legal guardians are equally provided with relevant information on these measures;

(c) To protect children who report abuse, specifically taking into account the risks of retaliation, including by removing those allegedly implicated in violence against or ill-treatment of children from any position of control or power, whether direct or indirect, over complainants, witnesses and their families, and those conducting the investigation;

(d) To take effective measures to protect children who provide information or act as witnesses in proceedings related to a case involving violence within the justice system;

(e) To provide access to fair, prompt and equitable redress mechanisms and accessible procedures for seeking and obtaining compensation for child victims of violence in the justice system, and to endeavour to adequately fund victim compensation schemes.

44. Recognizing the importance of detecting and responding to all incidents of violence against children as a result of their involvement with the justice system as alleged or sentenced offenders, Member States are urged, as appropriate:

(a) To ensure that laws establishing obligations to report violence against children in the justice system respect children's rights and are incorporated into the relevant regulations of agencies and rules of conduct, and that all those working with children have clear guidance on reporting requirements and consequences;

(b) To implement protection measures for staff who report in good faith alleged incidents of violence against children, and to adopt rules and procedures that protect the identity of professionals and private individuals who bring cases of violence against children to the attention of the competent authorities;

(c) To ensure the prompt, independent and effective investigation of all alleged incidents of violence against children involved with the justice system, as alleged or sentenced offenders, by competent and independent authorities, including medical personnel, with full respect for the principle of confidentiality.

XVII. Strengthening accountability and oversight mechanisms

45. Member States are urged to take all appropriate measures to combat impunity and the tolerance of violence against children within the justice system, including through awareness-raising programmes, education and effective prosecution of violent offences committed against children within the justice system.

46. Member States are encouraged to ensure that there is a clear and sustained commitment and obligation at all levels of justice institutions to prevent and address violence against children, including in a child- and gender-sensitive manner.

47. Member States are urged, as appropriate and while taking into consideration relevant international legal instruments:

(a) To promote accountability for incidents of violence against children in the justice system, including by adopt-

ing and implementing effective measures to enhance integrity and prevent corruption;

(b) To establish internal and external accountability mechanisms in policing and in places of detention;

(c) To establish all key elements of an effective accountability system, including independent national oversight, monitoring and complaint mechanisms for agencies dealing with children;

(d) To ensure the independent, prompt and effective investigation and prosecution of offences involving violence against children within the justice system;

(e) To ensure that all public officials who are found to be responsible for violence against children are held accountable through workplace disciplinary measures, termination of employment and criminal justice investigations, where appropriate;

(f) To promote transparency and public accountability regarding all measures taken to hold accountable perpetrators of violence and those who are responsible for preventing such violence;

(g) To undertake criminal or other public investigations into all serious reports of violence against children at any stage of the justice process, and to ensure that such investigations are carried out by persons of integrity, are adequately funded and are completed without undue delay.

Strengthening social policies for crime prevention

During the regular part of its twenty-third (2014) session, CCPCJ considered and approved for adoption by the Economic and Social Council a draft resolution on the issue of strengthening social policies as a tool for crime prevention (see below). In doing so, participants highlighted the importance of tailored approaches for youth and the potential of social policies with regard to effective crime prevention strategies and programmes ((E/2014/30, p. 90, para. 68)).

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 16 July [meeting 45], the Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [E/2014/30], adopted **resolution 2014/21** without vote [agenda item 17 (e)].

Strengthening social policies as a tool for crime prevention

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering the importance of adopting effective policies, programmes and actions to prevent and confront crime, violence and insecurity, including measures for the protection of individuals and groups in vulnerable situations,

Recognizing the importance of integrating crime prevention considerations into all relevant social and economic policies and programmes, placing particular emphasis on communities, families, children and youth,

Recognizing also that States should encourage partnerships between all appropriate levels of government and relevant stakeholders within civil society, aimed at ensuring the strengthening and sustainability of effective crime prevention

strategies, programmes and initiatives, as appropriate, and at promoting a culture of peace and non-violence,

Emphasizing that public security policies should encourage measures for addressing the multiple causes of crime, violence and insecurity,

Recognizing that the development and adoption of crime prevention policies and programmes and their monitoring and evaluation are the responsibility of States, and reaffirming that such efforts should be based on a participatory, collaborative and integrated approach that involves all relevant stakeholders, including those from civil society,

Recognizing also the importance of strengthening public-private partnerships in preventing crime in all its forms and manifestations, through joint and coordinated programmes,

Mindful of the prevention provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as well as relevant standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines), the guidelines for cooperation and technical assistance in the field of urban crime prevention, the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime and the updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Welcoming the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the area of crime prevention, including the development of technical tools and the provision of technical assistance to requesting Member States, in particular in the field of statistics and data collection and analysis in support of violence and crime prevention policies,

Underlining the need for all States to implement in a comprehensive, integrated and participatory manner crime prevention strategies, policies and programmes that address the multiple risk factors of both crime and victimization, based on the best available evidence and good practices, as an integral element of strategies to foster comprehensive social and economic development,

1. *Encourages* Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive policies and programmes that, by fostering social development, are aimed at the prevention of crime and violence and that address the multiple factors that contribute to crime and victimization, in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including civil society, and based on available evidence and good practices;

2. *Invites* Member States to consider, when developing crime prevention programmes, such issues as social inclusion, the strengthening of the social fabric, access to justice, social reintegration of offenders and access to health and education services, to consider the needs of victims of crime when developing those programmes, and to promote a culture of lawfulness and the well-being of individuals, with a particular emphasis on children and youth;

3. *Encourages* Member States to review and update, where appropriate, existing crime prevention strategies and to ensure that their effectiveness is measurable, in order to respond to the needs of the population and society as a whole;

4. *Urges* Member States to create and implement crime prevention policies and programmes designed to promote, inter alia, the participation of youth in achieving safer and more just, democratic and cohesive societies;

5. *Invites* Member States to exchange successful experiences and best practices in crime prevention with other Member States, thus promoting regional cooperation and coordination in crime prevention, with a view to addressing shared challenges through a comprehensive approach, in order to achieve significant long-term progress in this field;

6. *Encourages* Member States to coordinate crime prevention measures by assigning them to appropriate government bodies or, as necessary, creating a dedicated body that addresses and studies ways of strengthening social policies for crime prevention;

7. *Commends* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for its development of tools and facilitation of technical assistance programmes, urges the Office to continue to strengthen such programmes, and calls upon the Organization, upon request by Member States, to support the sharing of successful experiences and best practices between Member States;

8. *Recommends* that, in order to deepen cooperation and coordination among Member States, the issue of social policies for the prevention of violence and crime should be included as a matter of particular importance within the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

9. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Strengthening the goAML system

Commission action. On 16 May [E/2014/30 (res. 23/3)], the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice acknowledged the results achieved by Member States through the use of the goAML (Anti-Money-Laundering) software system, a product of the UNODC Information and Technology Service available for financial intelligence units and developed within the framework of the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism. It encouraged Member States to combat money-laundering, the financing of terrorism, corruption and transnational organized crime through implementation of financial intelligence tools such as goAML, and to consider the identification and use of specialized financial intelligence software systems on the basis of their national needs. The Commission requested UNODC to support States by continuing the development, implementation and maintenance of the goAML software within its operational and funding modalities, and requested the UNODC Executive Director to report to the Commission at its twenty-fourth (2015) session on progress made in that regard.