



United Nations

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

**Report on the reconvened
twenty-sixth session
(7 and 8 December 2017)**

**Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 2017
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Note

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[18 December 2017]

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decision for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

1. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Draft decision

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-sixth session

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-sixth session.

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

2. The attention of the Economic and Social Council is drawn to the following resolution, adopted by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its reconvened twenty-sixth session, and to the action taken pursuant to General Assembly resolution [61/252](#), in which the Assembly authorized the Commission to approve the programme budget for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund:

Resolution 26/5

Budget for the biennium 2018-2019 for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Exercising the administrative and financial functions entrusted to it by the General Assembly in its resolution [61/252](#) of 22 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime containing the proposed budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund¹ and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²

Noting with concern the financial challenges facing the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime due to the shortfall in general-purpose funding and underlying funding trends affecting the Office's ability to effectively uphold core programmatic functions, such as normative work and research,

Noting with regret the non-compliance by the Secretariat with the requests made in its resolutions 24/3 of 11 December 2015 and 25/4 of 2 December 2016 to provide budgets for future bienniums to Member States no later than one month prior to the submission to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,

Recalling that Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations emphasizes the paramount consideration of efficiency, competence and integrity with regard to the

¹ [E/CN.7/2017/12-E/CN.15/2017/14](#).

² [E/CN.7/2017/13-E/CN.15/2017/15](#).

recruitment of staff and that due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible,

Noting with concern the lack of diversity, in particular equitable geographical representation, within the staff of the Office, and emphasizing that the Office, both at headquarters and in the field, should take more effective measures to ensure the recruitment of a diverse pool of candidates,

Recognizing that the principle of equitable geographical distribution and the goal of equal representation of women in the composition of the Secretariat do not conflict with the paramount consideration in the employment of staff, namely the necessity of securing the highest standard of efficiency, competence and integrity as set out in Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 69/251 of 29 December 2014, in which the Assembly, inter alia, noted with disappointment the insufficient progress made with regard to achieving the goal of a 50/50 gender balance in the United Nations common system, especially in the Professional and higher categories, and requested the International Civil Service Commission to encourage the organizations of the common system to fully implement existing gender balance policies and measures,

1. *Notes* the progress made in the development of the thematic and regional programme approach to the programme of work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and in ensuring the full complementarity of the thematic and regional programmes;

2. *Also notes* that the budget is based, inter alia, on the strategy detailed under programme 13 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2018–2019;³

3. *Further notes* that the budget is harmonized with sections 16 and 29G of the proposed programme budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2018–2019;⁴

4. *Notes* that the budget focuses on general-purpose funds and that it also includes special-purpose funds and programme support cost income earned on special-purpose contributions as well as regular budget resources;

5. *Also notes* that the general-purpose resources of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund are presented as a single budget and that general-purpose expenditure will be apportioned between the two funds in accordance with the income that each generates;

6. *Further notes* that the budget clearly distinguishes between general-purpose funds and programme support cost funds and that it harmonizes the use and management of these two fund categories across the two funds of the Office;

7. *Notes* that the programme support cost resources of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund are presented as a single budget and that programme support expenditures will be apportioned between the two funds in accordance with the income that each generates;

8. *Approves*, provisionally, the projected use of general-purpose funds in the biennium 2018–2019, and invites Member States to provide contributions totalling at least 2,904,100 United States dollars, with the following conditions:

(a) Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to revise the funding arrangement proposed in paragraph 184 of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime⁵ for the Research and Trend Analysis Branch, as well as the Justice

³ A/71/6/Rev.1.

⁴ A/72/6 (Sect. 16) and A/72/6 (Sect. 29G).

⁵ E/CN.7/2017/12-E/CN.15/2017/14.

Section, to ensure the continuity of their work and staffing, and to present to the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, at its formal meeting in early 2018, a revised version of the draft consolidated budget that addresses this funding arrangement by redistributing resources throughout the Organization, for approval by the Commissions at their regular sessions;

9. *Endorses* the programme support cost and special-purpose estimates as indicated below, with the following conditions:

(a) Requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further explore best appropriation of programme support cost funds to support indirect functions of field offices, as appropriate, in conjunction with the requests made in paragraph 8 (a) of the present resolution;

(b) Also requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to more broadly use programme support cost funds at headquarters and in field offices, as appropriate;

Resource projections for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund

Category	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		Posts	
	2016–2017 (revised)	2018–2019	2016–2017	2018–2019
General-purpose				
Post	2 394.6	1 783.9	8	6
Non-post	223.8	1 120.3		
Subtotal	2 618.4	2 904.1	8	6
Special-purpose	300 097.8	304 661.1	238	238
Subtotal	300 097.8	304 661.1	238	238
Programme support cost				
Post	18 557.1	18 510.5	68	63
Non-post	3 830.5	6 527.3		
Subtotal	22 387.6	25 037.8	68	63
Total	325 103.7	332 603.0	314	307

10. *Notes* that the resource projections estimated above are subject to the availability of funding;

11. *Requests* the Secretariat to provide preliminary summary briefings on the budget and consult with all Member States in the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime prior to the publication of the draft consolidated budget, and to provide draft consolidated budgets for future bienniums to all Member States no later than one month prior to the date established for submission to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for further consultations, within the working group, with the involvement of the Executive Director before the submission of the reviewed proposal to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

12. *Urges* the Secretariat to distribute the draft agenda and all relevant documents at least 10 days prior to each meeting of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as requested in the Commission's resolution 26/1 of 26 May 2017;

13. *Requests* the Office to strengthen its efforts to encourage donors to provide general-purpose funding, including by means of further increasing transparency and the quality of reporting, and encourages Member States and other donors to consider providing support to the general-purpose funds of the Office;

14. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution [65/247](#) of 24 December 2010, in which the Assembly reiterated its requests to the Secretary-General to present proposals to effectively increase the representation of developing countries in the Secretariat, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, while upholding Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, to intensify its efforts to ensure the recruitment of staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible, in particular in the Professional and higher categories, by, inter alia, intensifying outreach efforts, and to report on the progress thereon to the Commission at its next reconvened session;

15. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to intensify the efforts of the Office to achieve the goal of a 50/50 gender balance within the Professional and higher categories, including for field representatives, while upholding Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, by, inter alia, intensifying outreach efforts, and to report on the progress thereon to the Commission at its next reconvened session;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to include in such reporting, as well as in the dialogue within the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, disaggregated data on the composition of staff by geographical area and gender, as well as measures taken to improve the geographical distribution and gender parity of its staff, including a description of its internal and external recruitment processes.

Chapter II

Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions

3. At the 1st meeting of the reconvened twenty-sixth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held jointly with the reconvened sixtieth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on 7 December 2017, and at the 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2017, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered agenda item 3, which read as follows:

“Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:

“(a) Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

“(b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme;

“(c) Working methods of the Commission;

“(d) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.”

4. For its consideration of item 3, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2017/3/Add.2-E/CN.15/2017/3/Add.2](#));

(b) Report of the Executive Director on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2017/12-E/CN.15/2017/14](#));

(c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2017/13-E/CN.15/2017/15](#));

(d) Report of the Executive Director on gender balance and geographical representation within the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2017/14-E/CN.15/2017/16](#));

5. The Director of the Division for Management of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) made an introductory statement. The observer for Egypt, in his capacity as Co-Chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC, also made an introductory statement.

6. Statements were made by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), the observer for Angola (on behalf of the Group of African States), the representative of Thailand (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States), the observer for Argentina (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States) and the observer for Estonia (on behalf of the European Union and its member States). Statements were also made by the representatives of Guatemala, Ecuador, Japan, Brazil, the United States of America, Chile, Mexico, Pakistan, Colombia, China and the Russian Federation.

7. The observers for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Netherlands, Indonesia and Peru also made statements.

A. Deliberations

8. Several speakers expressed appreciation for the crucial role and work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the financing and governance of UNODC in enhancing the transparency and accountability of the Office and strengthening cooperation and trust between Member States and UNODC. Several speakers underscored the crucial importance of UNODC country, regional and global programmes and emphasized that the growing contributions to UNODC for those programmes were a clear sign of trust and confidence in the important role played by UNODC as a reliable deliverer of technical assistance, which also required a stable field presence. In that context, the importance of ensuring appropriate resources and support for UNODC operations was stressed. It was noted that the working group served as a useful forum for regular consultations and review, including on matters related to UNODC programme development and implementation, financial, administrative and other issues. Several speakers welcomed the extension of the mandate of the working group until 2021 and expressed appreciation to the Co-Chairs for their work.

9. Several speakers expressed regret that the consolidated budget for the biennium 2018–2019 had not been presented to Member States one month prior to its submission to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, as stipulated in paragraph 19 of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 58/12 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 24/3. Several speakers emphasized that they had not been able to comment meaningfully on the consolidated budget prior to its finalization and submission to the Advisory Committee and that their comments, provided during meetings of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the financing and governance of UNODC, had not been adequately taken into account. UNODC was requested to ensure that the budgets for future budget cycles were submitted in full compliance with the relevant resolutions, and not later than one month prior to their submission to the Advisory Committee, in order to ensure advance consultations and discussions.

10. Several speakers reiterated the importance of adequate, predictable and stable funding for UNODC in order, inter alia, to ensure the continuity of the provision of technical assistance, in particular to developing countries, upon request, and the sustainability of its thematic, global and regional programmes. The need for UNODC to enhance the effectiveness of its technical assistance programmes and activities, in close consultation with and guidance from Member States, was underscored. Moreover, it was noted that UNODC should hold consultations with relevant stakeholders, including the host countries, in advance of changes to its field presence.

11. Several speakers called for an increase in contributions to enable UNODC to deliver its core mandates and expressed concern regarding the financial situation of UNODC, in particular the decrease in general-purpose funding, which could affect both the technical assistance delivery and the normative functions of UNODC. One speaker noted that the use of general-purpose funding for field offices with programmatic shortfalls was not a sustainable solution and expressed regret that the Secretariat had not provided to Member States details on the income and expenses of some field offices and strategies to overcome financial challenges.

12. Several speakers expressed serious concern regarding the proposed change in the funding structure of the Research and Trend Analysis Branch, as well as of the Justice Section. It was noted that the work of that Branch was an essential part of UNODC activities and a core function that required sustainable funding to guarantee its continuity and impartiality. The importance of ensuring the future funding of the Branch was highlighted by several speakers, and it was noted that the Branch should not bear the impact of the shortfalls in general-purpose funding. In relation to the activities of that Branch, several speakers emphasized the need for regular dialogue and consultations between Member States and UNODC regarding the Branch's ongoing and planned research activities, which should be based on mandates and policy guidance from the governing bodies.

13. UNODC was encouraged to review the proposed distribution of programme support cost funds between divisions and between headquarters and field offices, as well as the transfer of the remaining programme support cost resources to UNODC headquarters, rather than using such funds for field offices affected by short-term financial challenges. In that regard, it was also noted that such a review would allow the Office to release to the Research and Trend Analysis Branch some general-purpose funding that was currently allocated to field offices.

14. One speaker expressed the view that while the full cost recovery model would ensure high-quality programmes and a sound financial future for field offices, UNODC should properly evaluate and report on its implementation. Another speaker expressed the view that in the recent past, an increasing number of developing and middle-income countries had been providing financial contributions to the work of UNODC in support of activities in their own countries, and noted that programme support costs and full cost recovery, taken together, had become an increasing source of income to UNODC by diverting a significant portion of resources from programme implementation to general administrative support. UNODC was requested to provide additional information on criteria for exceptions to the 13 per cent programme support cost rate, which was very high for developing and middle-income donor countries, and to ensure that income created was also channelled back as appropriate directly to the related projects.

15. With reference to United Nations reform, it was mentioned that improvements should be sought in four key areas: leadership, efficiency, accountability and performance, and UNODC was encouraged to implement the Secretary-General's vision, while also taking steps to improve management processes in the future.

16. Several speakers expressed their appreciation for the clear progress made by UNODC in achieving gender parity, including at the senior level, while noting that more remained to be done in that regard. Several speakers welcomed the implementation of the system-wide programme on gender parity. Appreciation was expressed by several speakers for the efforts of UNODC to mainstream gender into its activities and programmes. With regard to the forthcoming finalization and publication of the UNOV/UNODC Strategy and Action Plan for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, several speakers made reference to the need for updates on the implementation and impact of that project. The Executive Director was requested to report to the Commission on measures to improve gender parity, in particular at the senior and policymaking levels.

17. Several speakers stressed that gender parity and equitable geographical representation should be two equally essential pillars of the human resources policy of UNODC. It was emphasized by a number of speakers that developing countries had qualified professionals with the required technical capacity and practical experience. UNODC was requested to establish concrete measures to correct the imbalance in geographical representation, including by reaching out to candidates from developing countries through, inter alia, its field office network. A number of speakers stated that merit and competence should be the basis of recruitment, while due regard should be paid to the importance of recruiting staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible, in accordance with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations.

18. Several speakers noted that concrete and sustainable efforts were needed to increase the representation of developing countries, in particular from unrepresented and underrepresented countries, in the staff composition of UNODC. Several speakers called upon the Executive Director of UNODC to undertake meaningful efforts to ensure equitable geographical representation, including at the Professional, senior and policymaking levels, and to report on the progress made to the Commission. They also stressed the need for a standing item on the agenda of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC, in order to review, on a regular basis, the progress made by the Secretariat in ensuring equitable geographical representation. UNODC was requested

to continue to provide updated disaggregated data on gender and the geographical composition of the Secretariat.

19. Furthermore, it was noted that the working methods of the Commissions could and should be improved and that the Commissions could approve two procedural points through their extended Bureaux, namely to establish a date for opening the list of speakers and to differentiate only between speakers at the ministerial level and other speakers.

B. Action taken by the Commission

20. At the joint meeting, on 7 December 2017, the Commission took note of Economic and Social Council decision 2017/236, in which the Council decided to renew the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC, until the sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to be held in the first half of 2021, and elected Ignacio Baylina Ruíz (Spain) and Moataz Khaled Aly Abdelhady (Egypt), as Co-Chairs of the working group in accordance with the procedure set out in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3.

21. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December, the Commission adopted resolution 26/5, entitled “Budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund”, as amended (see chap. I, sect. B). Under the item entitled “Other business”, in reference to the adoption of the resolution, as amended, the representative of the United States stated that it was the understanding of his Government that the resolution directed UNODC to revise the portion of the consolidated budget as it pertained to the Research and Trend Analysis Branch and that UNODC was expected to provide the revised text to the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the financing and governance of UNODC at its meeting in January 2018. The representative noted that his Government expected UNODC to develop a revised funding structure for the Branch and, in that regard, emphasized that the suggested paths forward that had been suggested by many delegations at meetings of the working group should guide the development of that funding structure. Furthermore, in reference to programme support costs, the representative reiterated his Government’s position that it was the Member States that decided which activities supported UNODC programmes, with advice from the Secretariat; that expertise on UNODC activities resided in Vienna; and that delegations at Vienna should determine how programme support costs were allocated. The representative added that, in order to better inform the decision-making by Member States, his Government would continue to request greater transparency from the Secretariat on how decisions regarding the allocation of programme support cost funds were made, both during the 2018–2019 and future budget cycles.

Chapter III

Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1, including follow-up, review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

22. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2017, the Commission considered agenda item 9, entitled “Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1, including follow-up, review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.

23. The First Vice-Chair of the Commission made an introductory statement.

Deliberations

24. Under the item, the Commission was informed that the Chair of the Commission had briefed the Economic and Social Council at its coordination and management meeting held in July 2017 about the outcome of the twenty-sixth session of the Commission. In its decision 2017/237, the Council had taken note of the report on that session and had approved the provisional agenda for the twenty-seventh session of the Commission. Furthermore, the First Vice-Chair noted that the Chair of the Commission had provided the Council with an overview of the written contributions made by the Commission to the integration segment of the 2017 session of the Council and to the 2017 high-level political forum on sustainable development.

25. At the same meeting, the First Vice-Chair brought to the attention of the Commission General Assembly resolution 70/299, in which the Assembly, inter alia, decided that the themes of the high-level political forum for the coming years would be as follows: “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies” (2018), and “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality” (2019). The First Vice-Chair recalled that, in the same resolution, the Assembly had decided that Sustainable Development Goals 6, 7, 11, 12 and 15 would be reviewed in 2018 and noted that the Commission should aim to further consider how it could best contribute, within its mandates, to the global follow-up of, and support for, the thematic review of progress made in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Chapter IV

Provisional agenda for the twenty-seventh session of the Commission

26. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2017, the Commission considered agenda item 10, entitled “Provisional agenda for the twenty-seventh session of the Commission”. The Chair introduced the item and brought to the attention of the Commission matters relating to the organization of work for its twenty-seventh session.

A. Deliberations

1. Duration of the twenty-seventh session and other arrangements

27. The Chair recalled that the extended Bureau, at its meeting on 21 November 2017, had recommended Monday, 14 May, to Friday, 18 May 2018, as the dates for the twenty-seventh session of the Commission, with pre-session informal consultations to be held on Friday, 11 May 2018. At its meeting, the extended Bureau had also recommended 6 and 7 December 2018 as the dates for the reconvened twenty-seventh session of the Commission.

28. It was brought to the attention of the Commission that, in accordance with its decision 21/1, the firm deadline for the submission of draft resolutions would be one month prior to the commencement of the session. Draft resolutions for the twenty-seventh session would thus have to be submitted by noon on Monday, 16 April 2018.

2. Thematic discussion

29. The Chair of the Commission recalled that, in accordance with Council decision 2016/241, the prominent theme and the topic of the thematic discussion at the twenty-seventh session of the Commission would be “Criminal justice responses to prevent and counter cybercrime in all its forms, including through the strengthening of cooperation at the national and international levels”. In that regard, reference was made to the Chair’s proposal on the sub-themes for the thematic discussion, which had been circulated to Member States on 28 November 2017. The Chair’s proposal to devote the morning session to the sub-theme “Current challenges” and the afternoon session to the sub-theme “Possible responses to them”, was endorsed by the Commission.

3. Workshop of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network

30. The Commission decided to accept, as it had done in previous years, a proposal by the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network to organize a workshop prior to the consideration of draft resolutions in the Committee of the Whole. The topic of the workshop would be related to the prominent theme of the twenty-seventh session of the Commission. The Chair informed the Commission that the proposed topic for the workshop would be brought to the attention of the extended Bureau of the Commission at its twenty-seventh session in due course. Furthermore, in view of the reference made at the twenty-sixth session of the Commission to the need to enhance the functioning of the programme network workshop by better integrating its proceedings into the work of the Commission, the recommendation of the extended Bureau that representatives of the institutes report to the Commission on the outcome of the workshop was endorsed by the Commission.

B. Action taken by the Commission

31. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2018, the Commission endorsed the dates, deadlines and arrangements for its twenty-seventh session referred to in paragraphs 27–30 above.

Chapter V

Other business

32. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2017, the Commission considered the agenda item entitled “Other business”.
33. Under this item, the representative of the United States made a statement, which is contained in chapter II.B, above.

Chapter VI

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its reconvened twenty-sixth session

34. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 December 2017, the Commission adopted the parts of its report on the organization of the session and administrative matters and on item 3 of the agenda ([E/CN.15/2017/L.1/Add.5](#) and [E/CN.15/2017/L.1/Add.6](#)). The Commission also adopted a draft decision, introduced by the Chair, on the report of the Commission on its reconvened twenty-sixth session, for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. A). The Commission also decided to entrust the finalization of the report to the Chair of the Commission, with the assistance of the Rapporteur.

Chapter VII

Organization of the session and administrative matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

35. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held its reconvened twenty-sixth session in Vienna on 7 and 8 December 2017.

36. The Economic and Social Council, in its decision 2011/259, entitled “Joint meetings of the reconvened sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”, decided that, starting in 2011, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice would hold joint meetings during their reconvened sessions for the sole purpose of considering agenda items included in the operational segment of the agendas of both Commissions, with a view to providing integrated policy directives to UNODC on administrative, budgetary and strategic management issues. The Council also decided that the practice of holding back-to-back reconvened sessions of the Commissions would be continued to enable each Commission to consider, in separate meetings, agenda items included in the normative segment of its agenda.

37. The Commission held a total of two meetings during its reconvened twenty-sixth session. Pursuant to Council decision 2011/259, one meeting of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was held jointly with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in order to consider item 3 of the agenda of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and item 3 of the agenda of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

38. At the joint plenary meeting, the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Chair of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice made statements.

B. Attendance

39. The reconvened twenty-sixth session was attended by representatives of 30 States members of the Commission (10 were not represented). Observers for other States Members of the United Nations, representatives of entities of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations also attended. A list of participants is contained in [E/CN.15/2017/INF/3/Rev.2](#).

C. Documentation

40. The documents before the Commission at its reconvened twenty-sixth session are listed in in [E/CN.15/2017/CRP.6/Add.1](#).

D. Closure of the reconvened twenty-sixth session

41. At the 2nd meeting, on 8 December, a closing statement was made by the Chair of the Commission. Statements were made by the representatives of Guatemala and Iran (Islamic Republic of). The observers for Norway, Indonesia and Algeria also made statements.