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## Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

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### Draft report

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#### Addendum

### **Thematic discussion on comprehensive and integrated crime prevention strategies: public participation, social policies and education in support of the rule of law**

1. At its 3rd and 4th meetings, on 23 May 2017, the Commission considered agenda item 4, entitled “Thematic discussion on comprehensive and integrated crime prevention strategies: public participation, social policies and education in support of the rule of law”. The discussion focused on the following sub-themes:

(a) Public participation and social policies in support of the rule of law: consultative and participatory processes for effective crime prevention and successful social policies in reducing crime and violence in the light of the Doha Declaration;

(b) Education in support of the rule of law: education for all children and youth and the role of youth participation in crime prevention efforts in the light of the Doha Declaration.

2. For its consideration of agenda item 4, the Commission had before it the note by the Secretariat containing the discussion guide for the thematic discussion ([E/CN.15/2017/6](#)).

3. The prominent theme for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission was decided by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2016/241.

4. The thematic discussion on item 4 was presided over by the Chair and led by the following panellists: Xiaoming Zhang (China), Juan José Benítez (Argentina), Erich Marks (Germany), Hiroshi Kikuchi (Japan), Enrique Gil Botero (Colombia) and Lucie Léonard (Canada).

5. The Chair made an introductory statement, reminded the audience of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the murder of Judge Giovanni Falcone and, referring to the tragedy that had happened in Manchester, United Kingdom, on 22 May, invited the Commission to observe a minute of silence for victims of terrorist attacks.



6. Introductory statements were also made by the Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs, the Chief of the Justice Section and the Chief of the Implementation Support Section of the Corruption and Economic Crime Branch of UNODC.

7. The observer for Kuwait made a statement (on behalf of the States members of the Gulf Cooperation Council). The Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice of Nigeria also made a statement. Statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Mexico, the United States of America, China, India, South Africa, Morocco, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Canada, Germany and Eritrea.

8. The observers for the Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, Libya, Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Algeria, Oman, Honduras, Indonesia, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Romania and the Netherlands also made statements.

9. The observer for the Holy See made a statement. The Assistant Director General for Communication and Information of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) also made a statement. The observer for the Korean Institute of Criminology made a statement. The observer for the Organization of American States also made a statement.

10. The observers for the Friends World Committee for Consultation and the International Organization for Victim Assistance also made statements.

## **A. Summary by the Chair**

11. The Chair's summary of the salient points, which was not subject to negotiation, is presented below.

12. Speakers stressed the importance of a holistic and forward-looking vision for the prevention of crime, as well as the fundamental role of public participation, social policies and education to uphold the rule of law, foster a culture of lawfulness and achieve sustainable development, as called for in the Doha Declaration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### **Public participation and social policies in support of the rule of law: consultative and participatory processes for effective crime prevention and successful social policies in reducing crime and violence in the light of the Doha Declaration**

13. Speakers emphasized the need for comprehensive, integrated, data-supported and evidence-based strategies that address the root causes of crime and violence. Many speakers highlighted commitment to developing and implementing such strategies, including through adopting relevant social policies. In that context, the importance of respecting the rule of law, human rights, existing legally binding instruments and United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice was underlined.

14. Many speakers highlighted that public participation, including in the form of public-private partnerships, as well as through the involvement of academia, civil society and citizens, was key to developing effective approaches to crime prevention. In that regard, a number of speakers underlined the need for awareness-raising and communication, and called attention to the opportunities presented by traditional and new media.

15. Some speakers noted that crime prevention strategies must be inclusive, so as to leave no one behind, and emphasized the important role of youth in that regard. Several speakers stressed the need for effective approaches to address the problem of recidivism.

### **Education in support of the rule of law: education for all children and youth and the role of youth participation in crime prevention efforts in the light of the Doha Declaration**

16. Many speakers emphasized the fundamental role of quality education at an early age and of investing in children and youth as a key crime prevention tool in supporting efforts to promote the rule of law, achieve sustainable development and foster a culture of lawfulness.

17. Some speakers noted that education was critical in addressing juvenile delinquency and preventing domestic violence. The importance of value-based education and integrating the rule of law into education at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels was highlighted by many speakers. Reference was made to the use of technology as an effective tool in education.

18. Several speakers underlined that education should be accessible to all, including girls and women. Education should be aimed at creating opportunities for the new generation, building on their role as agents of positive change in their societies, and at ensuring that crime prevention efforts were responsive to their needs. Many speakers emphasized the important role of educational institutions in building peace and tolerance and in fostering a culture of lawfulness.

19. The role of families, teachers, civil society and faith-based institutions in supporting educational efforts was emphasized by many speakers.

20. The valuable role of UNODC in assisting Member States in the field of crime prevention and education in support of the rule of law, in particular through technical assistance, was underlined.

21. The importance of international cooperation and the sharing of good practices was emphasized.

### **B. Workshop on institutional coordination in crime prevention: international perspectives**

22. The first meeting of the Committee of the Whole, on 22 May 2017, was devoted to a workshop on the theme “Institutional coordination in crime prevention: international perspectives”, organized by the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network. The workshop was chaired by the Third Vice-Chair of the Commission and moderated by a representative of the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime in Montreal, Canada, which is a member of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network.

23. An opening statement was made by the Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs of UNODC. Presentations were made by panellists from the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime, the Thailand Institute of Justice, the College for Criminal Law Science of Beijing Normal University, the Korean Institute of Criminology, the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy (Canada) and the Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Costa Rica). During the discussion, statements were made by the representatives of Saudi Arabia and Thailand. Statements were also made by the observers for the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy, the College for Criminal Law Science of Beijing Normal University and the Thailand Institute of Justice. Closing statements were made by the Third Vice-Chair of the Commission and by the representative of the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime.