



# Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice



Kyoto, Japan, 7–12 March 2021

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## Report of the pre-Congress consultations held at the Kyoto International Conference Center in Kyoto, Japan, on 6 March 2021

1. In conformity with the practice followed at United Nations special conferences and in accordance with General Assembly resolution [56/119](#) and decision 74/550 B, pre-Congress consultations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice were held on 6 March 2021. Participation in the consultations was open to representatives of all States invited to the Fourteenth Congress.

2. The matters considered and the recommendations agreed upon in the course of the consultations are set out below.

### A. Organizational arrangements arising from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

3. It is recommended that the Fourteenth Congress endorse the organizational arrangements arising from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) contained in conference room paper A/CONF.234/CRP.2, without setting a precedent for future congresses.

### B. Election of the President of the Fourteenth Congress

4. It is recommended that the Fourteenth Congress elect by acclamation Her Excellency Kamikawa Yoko, Minister of Justice of Japan, and head of delegation of the host country, as President of the Congress.

### C. Election of other officers

5. The General Committee of the Fourteenth Congress will be composed of officers from participating States, to be elected by the Congress under rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution. The Presidency will not be counted for the purpose of geographical distribution.

6. As of 6 March 2021, the following nominations regarding the composition of the General Committee have been submitted: Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Kenya, Libya, Morocco, Namibia and Nigeria (African States); Bangladesh, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Qatar and Thailand (Asia-Pacific States); Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Paraguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (Latin American and



Caribbean States); and Belgium, Finland, Italy, Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland (Western European and other States). The Chair of the Group of Eastern European States informed the Secretariat by means of a note verbale that the Group was not in a position to submit endorsed nominations.

7. In the light of announcements made in the course of the pre-Congress consultations and in conformity with rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure, it is recommended that the representative of Brazil be nominated as Chair of Committee I and the representative of Finland be nominated as Chair of Committee II. It is also recommended that the representative of Nigeria be nominated as Rapporteur-General.

8. Owing to the COVID-19 situation and the fact that not all vice-presidents can participate in the Congress in person, the meetings of the General Committee will be held in a hybrid format.

#### **D. Adoption of the rules of procedure**

9. It is recommended that the Fourteenth Congress adopt the provisional rules of procedure, as contained in document [A/CONF.234/2](#).

10. It is also recommended that the rules be interpreted bearing in mind the specific circumstances of the Fourteenth Congress, with a view to allowing for practical solutions to the challenges arising from a hybrid meeting. None of these practical solutions shall constitute a precedent for future congresses.

#### **E. Adoption of the agenda**

11. It is recommended that the Fourteenth Congress adopt the provisional agenda, as contained in document [A/CONF.234/1/Rev.1](#).

#### **F. Allocation of items**

12. It is recommended that items 1–7 of the provisional agenda, as well as the high-level segment of the Fourteenth Congress, be allocated to plenary meetings, and that workshops 1 and 3 be allocated to Committee I for consideration. It is also recommended that workshops 2 and 4 be allocated to Committee II for consideration.

#### **G. Organization of work**

13. It is recommended that the Fourteenth Congress approve the proposed organization of work for the Congress, as set out in the annex to document [A/CONF.234/1/Rev.1](#), on the understanding that any adjustments necessary will be made during the course of the proceedings of the Congress.

14. It is also recommended that the draft Kyoto declaration on advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, be formally adopted at the opening of the high-level segment.

15. As there will be a long list of speakers and only a limited amount of time available, in particular owing to the fact that virtual interpretation is limited to two hours during the meetings of the Congress, each State is limited to one statement of three minutes during the high-level segment, in order to provide sufficient time for all States wishing to deliver statements to do so. Statements by the Chairs of regional groups may last up to five minutes. The speaking time should be strictly adhered to.

16. The list of speakers for the high-level segment was established by the drawing of lots on 17 February 2021 and has been compiled by the Secretariat, taking into account, to the extent possible, the rank of the head of the delegation of each State requesting the floor.

## **H. Credentials of representatives to the Fourteenth Congress: appointment of members of the Credentials Committee**

17. In accordance with rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure, it is recommended that the membership of the Credentials Committee be based, as far as possible, upon that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, which is composed of, in alphabetical order, Cameroon, China, Iceland, Papua New Guinea, the Russian Federation, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay. As China, Iceland, Papua New Guinea and Trinidad and Tobago will not participate in the Credentials Committee, it is also recommended that they be replaced by Ecuador, Italy, Japan and Mongolia, which will serve on the Credentials Committee together with the other members of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly, namely, Cameroon, the Russian Federation, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States and Uruguay.

18. Owing to the COVID-19 situation and the fact that not all members of the Credentials Committee can participate in person, the meetings will be held in a hybrid format.

## **I. Participation of non-governmental organizations in the Fourteenth Congress**

19. In line with paragraph 48 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, an interim accreditation to the Fourteenth Congress was accorded to a non-governmental organization that does not have consultative status with the Council and whose participation had been objected to by one Member State. Following that objection, no consensus on the participation – or on the denial of participation – of that non-governmental organization was reached. Therefore, the interim accreditation is still valid. The objecting Member State has brought its position to the attention of the Congress in conference room paper A/CONF.234/CRP.9.

20. The participation in the Congress of the non-governmental organization that has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and is also mentioned in A/CONF.234/CRP.9 was confirmed, in line with Council resolution 1996/31.

## **J. Report of the Fourteenth Congress**

21. It is recommended that, in accordance with the practice followed by previous United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, the report of the Fourteenth Congress should consist of the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the conclusions and recommendations of the Congress on the various substantive items of its agenda and the outcome of the workshops. The report should also contain the decisions of the Congress, a brief account of the events leading to the convening of the Congress, the proceedings of the Congress, including a list of speakers addressing the high-level segment of the Congress, a summary of the work conducted by the plenary and by the committees and an overview of the special events held during the Congress. It is also recommended that the reports of Committee I and Committee II be approved at the final meeting of the respective Committee before being adopted by the plenary as part of the report of the Congress. In accordance with past practice, the parts of the report that reflect the last day of the Congress will be finalized after the Congress, under the guidance of the Rapporteur-General.