



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
23 May 2019

Original: English

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Twenty-eighth session

Vienna, 20–24 May 2019

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ahmed Tareq Ibrahim Maaty (Egypt)

Addendum

Integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice

1. At its 6th and 7th meetings, on 22 and 23 May 2019, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered agenda item 6, which read as follows:

“Integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice:

(a) Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;

(b) Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

(c) Ratification and implementation of the international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism;

(d) Other crime prevention and criminal justice matters;

(e) Other activities in support of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, non-governmental organizations and other bodies.”

2. For its consideration of item 6, the Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2019/2-E/CN.15/2019/2](#));

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in combating transnational organized crime and corruption ([E/CN.15/2019/4](#));



(c) Report of the Secretary-General on technical assistance in implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism (E/CN.15/2019/5);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network (E/CN.15/2019/7 and E/CN.15/2019/7/Corr.1);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (E/CN.15/2019/8);

(f) Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of two members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (E/CN.15/2019/14).

3. Introductory statements were made by the Chief of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch, a Senior Adviser of the Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, the Chief of the Terrorism Prevention Branch and the Chief of the Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Section. The Director a.i. of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute also made an introductory statement.

4. Statements were made by the representatives of Algeria, Japan, Thailand, the United States, Colombia, China, Italy, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, India, Iraq, Morocco and Bulgaria.

5. Observers for Romania, Tunisia, Canada, Azerbaijan, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, Viet Nam and the Sudan also made statements.

6. The Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers made a statement. A representative of the Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders also made a statement. A statement was also made by a representative of Soroptimist International.

A. Deliberations

1. Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

7. Many speakers welcomed the establishment of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto by Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in its resolution 9/1. Support was expressed for the work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group meeting established in accordance with that resolution in connection with the 2018–2020 preparatory phase of the Mechanism.

8. Some speakers underscored that the guidelines for the country reviews and other pending documents should strictly adhere to the text of resolution 9/1 and the procedures and rules for the functioning of the Mechanism annexed thereto. It was also emphasized that the workplan and timeline of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group meeting for finalizing the preparatory phase should be observed.

9. Many speakers highlighted the importance of carrying out effective international cooperation to address transnational organized crime, including trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and illicit firearms trafficking, as well as other forms of crime, including cybercrime, trafficking in cultural property, wildlife crime and trafficking in precious metals.

10. Several speakers expressed concern regarding links between transnational organized crime and terrorism, in particular the funding of terrorist activities through organized criminal activities.

11. Many speakers shared information on legislative and operational efforts taken by their Governments to implement the Convention and its Protocols.

2. Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

12. Many speakers reiterated their commitment to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and reported on the measures taken to implement the Convention.

13. It was stressed that the Implementation Review Mechanism played an important role in Member States' efforts to effectively implement the Convention. The transparent and impartial nature of the Mechanism was highlighted. Some speakers underlined the role of civil society in that regard.

14. The importance of asset recovery and the need for effective international cooperation, including in the areas of mutual legal assistance and extradition, was underscored by many speakers. Several speakers underlined the central role of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and its resolutions in generating and strengthening political will. A number of speakers underlined the importance of the technical assistance provided by UNODC for implementing the Convention, including through the joint UNODC/World Bank Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative.

15. Reference was made to the importance of fighting corruption in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. One speaker noted that the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation, which the Assembly had decided to convene in its resolution 73/191, should be guided by the experts who led the Convention's implementation at the national level, in order to carry forward the implementation of existing instruments and not develop new ones. Another speaker emphasized that the political declaration that would be adopted at the special session should be action-oriented and contribute to strengthening international cooperation. It was also suggested by the speaker that consideration be given to exploring innovative proposals, such as the establishment of a supranational and independent international anti-corruption court.

3. Ratification and implementation of the international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism

16. Many speakers highlighted that terrorism was a major threat to international peace and security, with some speakers underscoring that that threat could and should not be linked to any religion or ethnic group. Many speakers reported on their counter-terrorism efforts and recognized the important work and central role of the United Nations, especially UNODC and its Terrorism Prevention Branch, in building national capacity to combat terrorism. It was noted that the Commission played a critical role in providing guidance and direction to UNODC.

17. The importance of strengthening international and regional cooperation in combating terrorism was highlighted and a number of speakers referred to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in that regard. Several speakers emphasized the need to address emerging challenges, including those related to returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters, money-laundering, nuclear terrorism, the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, and the financing of terrorism,

in particular through transnational organized crime. Some speakers highlighted the importance of mainstreaming gender dimensions into holistic counter-terrorism responses, addressing the symptoms and root causes of terrorism and strengthening efforts to reintegrate offenders into society. Some speakers emphasized the importance of public-private partnerships and cooperation with other regional and international actors and civil society.

18. The importance of implementing existing international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism was stressed. Some speakers called for continued efforts to develop the comprehensive convention on terrorism.

4. Other crime prevention and criminal justice matters

19. Many speakers noted their appreciation for the ongoing support and technical work of UNODC on numerous issues in the field of transnational organized crime, including trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. Appreciation was also expressed for the work of the Office in the fields of cybercrime, corruption, drug trafficking and counter-terrorism. One speaker reiterated the importance of a holistic approach to crime prevention, highlighting national educational and life-skills initiatives aimed at children and youth. That speaker also underlined the need for greater attention and timely responses by the international community to wildlife crime.

20. A number of speakers commended the work of the Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime, taking into account a diverse set of views and many possible solutions, and called for further international prioritization of the issue of cybercrime. Many speakers highlighted the importance of technical assistance and capacity-building and expressed appreciation for the work of the UNODC Global Programme on Cybercrime.

21. Many speakers affirmed the importance of a shared commitment to implementing the Organized Crime Convention, the Trafficking in Persons Protocol and the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, noting the centrality and profitability of related activities for organized criminal groups. Noting that they were complex crimes requiring comprehensive and multidimensional responses, many speakers emphasized the need for greater prevention efforts, multi-stakeholder engagement and cross-border cooperation, as well as the need for the continued enhancement of legislative efforts, national coordination and victim-assistance measures. Several speakers underlined the relevance of efforts to promote human rights, in particular those to enhance the protection of vulnerable members of society, including migrants, noting that violence, discrimination and issues regarding access to justice were very often present in both trafficking and smuggling cases.

5. Other activities in support of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, non-governmental organizations and other bodies

22. Many speakers welcomed the contributions of the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, including in the field of research, the organization of conferences and training activities, and the provision of technical assistance. It was emphasized that, in order to ensure the quality of their research, the institutes should use the best available evidence and be transparent in their methods. The contributions of the institutes to the preparations for the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice were highlighted. The new strategic framework of UNICRI was welcomed and UNICRI was encouraged to continue to contribute to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

B. Action taken

23. At its 7th meeting, on 23 May 2019, the Commission decided to transmit to the Economic and Social Council the report of UNICRI ([E/CN.15/2019/8](#)), which had been prepared pursuant to a decision of the Board of Trustees taken at its meeting held on 16 and 17 January 2019, to report to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission, in accordance with article 4, paragraph 3 (e), of the statute of the Institute (Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/56, annex).

24. At the same meeting, the Commission recommended to the Economic and Social Council that it elect Carolina Lizárraga Houghton and Youngju Oh and re-elect Carlos Castresana Fernández and Joel Antonio Hernández García as members of the Board of Trustees of UNICRI ([E/CN.15/2019/14](#)).
