



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited  
23 April 2019

Original: English

## Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

### Twenty-eighth session

Vienna, 20–24 May 2019

Item 6 of the provisional agenda\*

### 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

#### Belarus: draft resolution

#### Strengthening crime prevention through society-wide approaches

*The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,*

*Reaffirming* its deep concern at the impact of transnational organized crime on the political, social and economic stability and development of societies,

*Recognizing* that well-planned crime prevention measures not only prevent crime and victimization, but also promote community safety and contribute to the sustainable development of countries,

*Recognizing also* that crime prevention generally comprises strategies, policies and programmes that seek to reduce both the risk of crime occurring and the potential harmful effects of crime on individuals and society, including fear of crime, by intervening to influence multiple causes,

*Affirming* that national crime prevention measures should, where appropriate, take into account the links between local crime problems and transnational organized crime,

*Recalling* all relevant United Nations resolutions that address the topic of crime prevention,

*Reaffirming* the need to prevent and combat transnational organized crime in all its forms and manifestations and to fully utilize the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto<sup>1</sup> and other relevant instruments,

*Stressing* the importance of implementing fully the prevention components of existing conventions, the United Nations guidelines on crime prevention and other relevant international standards and norms,

\* [E/CN.15/2019/1](#).

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.



*Recalling* in particular article 31 of the Organized Crime Convention, on measures aimed at the prevention of transnational organized crime,

*Recalling also* the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,<sup>2</sup> which includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

*Recognizing* the importance of promoting sustainable development as a complement to crime prevention strategies, policies and programmes,

*Mindful of* the commitments made by Member States contained in paragraph 7 of the Doha Declaration on 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, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,<sup>3</sup> related to crime prevention, in particular the commitment to endeavour to create a safe, positive and secure learning environment in schools, supported by the community, and to integrate crime prevention into educational systems and into relevant social and economic programmes, in particular those affecting youth,

*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, as well as its continued work aimed at enhancing effective crime prevention strategies, policies and programmes, including in collaboration with relevant United Nations entities,

*Welcoming also* the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to develop and facilitate the implementation of its evidence-informed life-skills training programme for sports settings, called “Line Up, Live Up”, which is aimed at preventing crime, violence and drug use,

*Acknowledging* the range of approaches to crime prevention, including developmental, community and situational crime prevention, and stressing the importance of exchanging knowledge and sharing successful practices within and between developing countries, developed countries and countries with economies in transition,

*Acknowledging also* that comprehensive, evidence-based crime prevention strategies, policies and programmes can significantly reduce crime and victimization by addressing the root causes and risk factors of crime and victimization,

*Bearing in mind* that allocating resources to crime prevention can greatly reduce the financial and social costs of crime,

*Recognizing* the responsibility of Member States to develop crime prevention strategies, policies and programmes and to create and maintain institutional frameworks for their implementation, monitoring and evaluation, while noting that such efforts should be based on a participatory, collaborative and integrated approach that includes all relevant stakeholders,

*Emphasizing* the need to establish necessary partnerships with all relevant stakeholders in the process of achieving effective crime prevention strategies, policies and programmes,

*Stressing* the importance of intensifying prevention efforts and measures targeting and using the full potential of families, schools, religious and cultural

<sup>2</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/174, annex.

institutions, community organizations and the private sector in order to address the social and economic root causes of crime,

*Emphasizing* that education for all children and youth, including the eradication of illiteracy, is fundamental to the prevention of crime, and stressing in this regard the important role of youth participation in crime prevention efforts,

*Welcoming* community-based initiatives aimed at preventing crime, including awareness-raising campaigns and work in support of the social reintegration and rehabilitation of offenders,

*Mindful* of the fact that much of the international information and communications and commercial infrastructure targeted or exploited by criminals is developed, operated and maintained by the private sector, and in this regard recognizing the importance of strengthening public-private partnerships in preventing crime through the sharing of information, knowledge and experience and through joint and coordinated actions,

*Noting* the importance of integrating crime prevention considerations into all relevant social and economic strategies, policies and programmes, including those addressing employment, education, health, housing and urban planning, poverty, social marginalization and exclusion and those that place particular emphasis on communities, families, children and youth,

*Recognizing* that crime prevention measures should be designed and implemented in conformity with the rule of law and with due regard for internationally recognized human rights,

*Noting* the progress made by Member States in establishing effective policies and programmes in urban crime prevention, including in the context of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,<sup>4</sup> and encouraging increased sharing of experience,

*Convinced* of the need to strengthen local, regional and international cooperation in the effective prevention and combating of criminal activities wherever they occur,

1. *Urges* all Member States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto<sup>1</sup> and to effectively implement their provisions;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to develop evidence-based 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;

3. *Encourages* Member States to integrate crime prevention considerations into their national plans towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>2</sup> and into all relevant social and economic strategies, policies and programmes, placing particular emphasis on communities, families, children and youth, in order to effectively address the conditions in which crime and violence can emerge;

4. *Also encourages* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into their crime prevention strategies, policies and programmes, and further encourages Member States to solicit contributions from women and girls in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation thereof;

5. *Invites* Member States to encourage the active participation of the private sector in crime prevention, as well as in social inclusion programmes and

<sup>4</sup> General Assembly resolution 71/256, annex.

employability schemes for vulnerable members of society, including victims and those released from prison;

6. *Also invites* Member States to engage the academic and research communities in exploring the impact of crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes on preventing crime, while taking into account the interests and contributions of all stakeholders involved;

7. *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, handbooks and capacity-building material developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

8. *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;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General to include information on the implementation of the present resolution in the existing reporting obligations to the General Assembly under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice.

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