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Agenda item 108

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Third Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2021, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-sixth session the item entitled “Crime prevention and criminal justice” and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered a proposal and took action on the item at its 7th, 10th and 12th meetings, on 5, 12 and 15 November. An account of the Committee’s discussion is contained in the relevant summary records.¹ Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 1st to 6th meetings, on 30 September and on 1, 4 and 7 October.²

3. The Committee, pursuant to the organization of work adopted at its 1st meeting, held on 30 September, and taking into account the prevailing conditions relating to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the working arrangements for its seventy-sixth session and the available technological and procedural solutions in the interim period, convened one virtual informal meeting to hear an introductory statement and hold an interactive dialogue on the item jointly with item 109, entitled “Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes”, and item 110, entitled “International drug control”. The proceedings of the virtual informal meeting are reflected in the annex to the present document.

4. Also pursuant to the organization of work adopted at its 1st meeting, and in lieu of the holding of in-person general discussions of agenda items allocated to the Third

¹ See [A/C.3/76/SR.7](#), [A/C.3/76/SR.10](#) and [A/C.3/76/SR.12](#).

² See [A/C.3/76/SR.1](#), [A/C.3/76/SR.2](#), [A/C.3/76/SR.3](#), [A/C.3/76/SR.4](#), [A/C.3/76/SR.5](#) and [A/C.3/76/SR.6](#). Pursuant to the organization of work adopted at the 1st meeting, on 30 September, official statements received by the Secretariat for posting on eStatements can be accessed at the following link: [journal.un.org](https://www.un.org/journal).



Committee, official statements received by the Secretariat under the item can be accessed through the Third Committee Place of the e-deleGATE portal.

5. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons ([A/76/120](#));

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, with particular reference to the technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([A/76/122](#)).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.2](#)

6. In its resolution [2021/20](#), the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled “Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”. The draft resolution was submitted by the Chair on the recommendation of the Council ([A/C.3/76/L.2](#)).

7. At its 7th meeting, on 5 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.2](#) (see para. 26, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.3](#)

8. In its resolution [2021/21](#), the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled “Reducing reoffending through rehabilitation and reintegration”. The draft resolution was submitted by the Chair on the recommendation of the Council ([A/C.3/76/L.3](#)).

9. At its 7th meeting, on 5 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.3](#) (see para. 26, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.4](#)

10. In its resolution [2021/22](#), the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled “Integrating sport into youth crime prevention and criminal justice strategies”. The draft resolution was submitted by the Chair on the recommendation of the Council ([A/C.3/76/L.4](#)).

11. At its 7th meeting, on 5 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.4](#) (see para. 26, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.5](#)

12. In its resolution [2021/23](#), the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled “Strengthening criminal justice systems during and after the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic”. The draft resolution was submitted by the Chair on the recommendation of the Council ([A/C.3/76/L.5](#)).

13. At its 7th meeting, on 5 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.5](#) (see para. 26, draft resolution IV).

E. Draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.6](#)

14. In its resolution [2021/24](#), the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled “Preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment”. The draft resolution was submitted by the Chair on the recommendation of the Council ([A/C.3/76/L.6](#)).

15. At its 7th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.6](#) (see para. 26, draft resolution V).

F. Draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.10/Rev.1](#)

16. At its 10th meeting, on 12 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled “Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons” ([A/C.3/76/L.10/Rev.1](#)), submitted by Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Central African Republic, China, Côte d’Ivoire, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Guatemala, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Jamaica, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, the Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

17. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of programme budget implications in connection with the draft resolution.

18. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Belarus made a statement.

19. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.10/Rev.1](#) (see para. 26, draft resolution VI).

20. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of the United States of America, Canada (also on behalf of Australia, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), the European Union (on behalf of its member States, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Ukraine and the United States of America), Eritrea, Liechtenstein (also on behalf of Australia and the Netherlands), Denmark, Poland, Croatia, Germany, Estonia, Cuba, Finland, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Czechia, Latvia, Austria, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Lithuania, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, China and Greece, as well the observer for the Holy See, made statements.

21. At the same meeting, statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of Belarus, Lithuania and Poland.

G. Draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.9/Rev.1](#)

22. At its 12th meeting, on 15 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled “Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity” ([A/C.3/76/L.9/Rev.1](#)), submitted by Albania, Austria, Belarus, the Central African Republic, Côte d’Ivoire, Cyprus, Czechia, Equatorial Guinea, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Kazakhstan, Malawi, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Netherlands, Paraguay, Tajikistan and Ukraine. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

23. At the same meeting, the representative of Italy made a statement.

24. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.9/Rev.1](#) (see para. 26, draft resolution VII).

25. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of Mexico and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, China and Australia made statements.

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

26. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution [155 C \(VII\)](#) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution [415 \(V\)](#) of 1 December 1950,

Acknowledging that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation in that field by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling its resolution [46/152](#) of 18 December 1991, in the annex to which Member States affirmed that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice should be held every five years and should provide a forum for, inter alia, the exchange of views between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines, the exchange of experiences in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recalling also its resolution [57/270 B](#) of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, in which it stressed that all countries should promote policies consistent and coherent with the commitments of major United Nations conferences and summits, emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments in staying fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at major United Nations conferences and summits and invited the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system to further promote the implementation of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling further its decision [74/550 A](#) of 13 April 2020, in which it noted with concern the situation concerning the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and decided to postpone the holding of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and its decision [74/550 B](#) of 12 August 2020, in which it decided to hold the Fourteenth Congress in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021 and requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to give high priority at its thirtieth session to considering the declaration of the Fourteenth Congress, with a view to recommending, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate follow-up by the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session,

Having considered the report of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice¹ and the related recommendations made by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its thirtieth session,

¹ [A/CONF.234/16](#).

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the results achieved by the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021, which were based on, notwithstanding the situation brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, the participation of a record number of Member States, United Nations entities, other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and individual experts, and expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for enabling not only in-person but also online participation through the use of a customized online event platform;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the work done in preparation for and follow-up to the Fourteenth Congress, and extends its thanks to the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network for their contribution to the Fourteenth Congress, in particular with regard to the workshops held within the framework of the Congress;

3. *Welcomes with appreciation* the initiative of the Government of Japan, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue the good practice of the Thirteenth Congress and organize a youth forum prior to the Fourteenth Congress, expresses its appreciation for the recommendations of the Youth Forum, which were brought to the attention of the Fourteenth Congress,² encourages Member States to give due consideration to those recommendations, and invites the host countries of future congresses to consider the holding of similar events;

4. *Expresses its profound gratitude* to the people and Government of Japan for the warm and generous hospitality extended to the participants in the Fourteenth Congress and for the excellent facilities provided for the Congress;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Fourteenth Congress;

6. *Endorses* the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the Fourteenth Congress, as approved by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its thirtieth session and annexed to the present resolution;

7. *Invites* Governments to take into consideration the Kyoto Declaration adopted by the Fourteenth Congress when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein, in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

8. *Invites* Member States to identify areas covered in the Kyoto Declaration where further tools and training manuals based on international standards and best practices are needed and to submit that information to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice so that it may take that information into account when considering potential areas of future activity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

9. *Welcomes with appreciation* the intention of the Government of Japan, and invites all Member States, to work with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to ensure appropriate follow-up to the outcome of the Fourteenth Congress, in particular the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to review the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration under the standing item on its agenda entitled “Follow-up to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime

² Ibid., para. 24 and annex.

Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”;

11. *Also requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in accordance with its mandate, to adopt the appropriate policy and operational measures for the follow-up to the Kyoto Declaration and identify innovative ways to make use of information on progress made in the implementation of the Declaration, invites the Commission to engage with other relevant stakeholders, and, in this regard, requests the Commission to hold intersessional thematic discussions, working in close consultation with Member States on a workplan, to effectively follow up on the Kyoto Declaration through the sharing of information, good practices and lessons learned, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to distribute the report of the Fourteenth Congress, including the Kyoto Declaration, to Member States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, so as to ensure that it is disseminated as widely as possible, and to seek proposals by Member States on other ways and means of ensuring appropriate follow-up to the Kyoto Declaration, for consideration and action by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its thirty-first session;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Annex

Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

We, Heads of State and Government, Ministers and Representatives of Member States,

Assembled at the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021, half a century after the Fourth Congress, held in Kyoto in 1970, at which the international community vowed to coordinate and intensify crime prevention efforts within the context of social and economic development,

Taking stock of the 65-year legacy of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, their continuing significant role as the largest and most diverse international forums in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice and their achievements in advancing discussions on policy and professional practices and commitments by the international community,

Recalling 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,³ in which we reaffirmed the need to integrate crime prevention and criminal justice issues into the wider agenda of the United Nations in order to enhance system-wide coordination,

Recognizing the need to build upon the progress made since the Thirteenth Congress, including the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁴ and the achievement thereof so far, and the challenges to overcome,

³ Resolution 70/174, annex.

⁴ Resolution 70/1.

Declare the following:

1. We express deep concern about the negative impact of crime on the rule of law, human rights, socioeconomic development, public health and security, the environment and cultural heritage;
2. We also express deep concern that crime is becoming increasingly transnational, organized and complex and that criminals are increasingly exploiting new and emerging technologies, including the Internet, to carry out their illicit activities, thus creating unprecedented challenges in preventing and combating existing crimes, as well as new and emerging forms of crime;
3. We undertake to contribute to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through our efforts in crime prevention and criminal justice, with the firm recognition that sustainable development and the rule of law are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, that crime is an impediment to sustainable development and that achieving sustainable development is an enabling factor for States to effectively prevent and combat crime;
4. We undertake to promote the rule of law through multidimensional approaches;
5. We undertake to intensify concerted global efforts to prevent and combat crime by facilitating and strengthening international cooperation in criminal matters;
6. We draw attention, in view of rapidly changing realities, to the need for timely adaptation and, if the need arises, strengthening of the international legal framework for international cooperation on criminal matters;
7. We undertake to enhance the capacity of law enforcement and other criminal justice institutions, as central components of the rule of law, and practitioners to effectively prevent and combat crime, and to provide technical assistance in this regard;
8. We undertake that our law enforcement, criminal justice and other relevant institutions will effectively and appropriately employ new and advanced technologies as tools against crime with adequate and effective safeguards to prevent the misuse and abuse of these technologies in this regard;
9. We emphasize our primary role and responsibility as States and Governments for defining crime prevention strategies and policies;
10. We undertake to enhance multidisciplinary efforts to prevent and combat crime through cooperation and coordination between law enforcement and other criminal justice institutions, and other governmental sectors, as well as to support their work, by engaging in and fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships with the private sector, civil society, academia and the scientific community, and with other relevant stakeholders as appropriate;
11. We reaffirm our commitment to strengthening the central role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the main policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice;
12. We reaffirm the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity of the United Nations supporting Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice through the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building, as well as through its normative work, research and expertise, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, to which we endeavour to provide sufficient, stable and predictable funding, and the role of the Vienna-based intergovernmental forums, including policymaking bodies and their subsidiary bodies, within the United Nations system on crime prevention and criminal justice as

a most valuable and global source of knowledge, inputs, guidance and best practices in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice within their respective mandates;

13. We express grave concern about the situation arising from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and its social and economic implications, which have created new opportunities for and transformed the *modi operandi* of criminals and organized criminal groups in different forms and to different extents, as well as posed challenges to criminal justice in multiple aspects;

14. We also express grave concern about the vulnerability of prisons, especially in terms of health, safety and security, to the real risk of a rapid spread of the virus in closed settings, which can be further aggravated by long-standing challenges such as prison overcrowding and poor prison conditions;

15. We commit ourselves to take decisive actions and action-oriented measures to address challenges and remove international impediments posed and aggravated by COVID-19 to crime prevention and criminal justice, including by a multilateral approach and strengthening the resilience of law enforcement and other criminal justice institutions through multilateral cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnership, with special attention to the urgent capacity-building and technical assistance needs of developing countries in this regard, bearing in mind the long-term social and economic implications of the pandemic, including for sustainable development and international cooperation, and recognizing that the poorest and most vulnerable are the hardest hit by the impact of the pandemic;

16. We recognize, in light of the ongoing experience of the COVID-19 pandemic, and in preparation for any similar future challenges, the need to review criminal justice systems and to make them more effective, accountable, transparent, inclusive and responsive through promoting digitalization;

17. We recommit to a multilateral approach in preventing and combating crimes and promoting the rule of law at the local, national, regional and international levels, and reaffirm the central role of the United Nations, including the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity of the United Nations in supporting Member States in this regard;

18. We strongly reaffirm the responsibility of all States to fully promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as to uphold the principle of human dignity, in the impartial administration of justice and throughout all our efforts in preventing and combating crime;

19. We strongly reaffirm the responsibility of all States to uphold the Charter of the United Nations in its entirety and to fully respect the principles of sovereign equality and the territorial integrity of States and that of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other States throughout all our efforts in preventing and combating crime;

20. We commit to making full and effective use of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,⁵ the United Nations Convention against Corruption,⁶ the three international drug control conventions, relevant international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, as parties to those instruments, and other relevant international obligations, including as a basis to facilitate international cooperation;

⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

We therefore endeavour to take the following actions:

Advancing crime prevention

Addressing the causes, including the root causes, of crime

21. Develop, implement and evaluate crime prevention strategies, including their effectiveness, that address the causes, including the root causes, and risk factors that make different segments of society more vulnerable to crime, and share best practices to strengthen our capacity;

Evidence-based crime prevention

22. Enhance evidence-based crime prevention strategies through the collection and analysis of data using systematic and coherent criteria, bearing in mind the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes, and evaluate the effectiveness of such strategies;

23. Improve the quality and availability of data on crime trends, considering the development of statistical indicators, and share such data, on a voluntary basis, to strengthen our capacity to better understand global crime trends and improve the effectiveness of strategies to prevent and combat crime;

Addressing the economic dimension of crime

24. Develop and implement effective measures to address the economic dimension of crime and deprive criminals and criminal organizations of any illicit gains through, inter alia, identifying, tracing, seizing, confiscating, recovering and returning proceeds of crime, as well as establishing robust domestic frameworks for financial investigations, and to develop strategies to prevent and combat money-laundering and illicit financial flows;

25. Consider, review and implement efficient measures to regulate the management of seized and confiscated proceeds of crime, bearing in mind the study prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on effective management and disposal of seized and confiscated assets,⁷ with a view to efficiently preserving and managing such proceeds of crime;

Tailor-made crime prevention strategies

26. Promote tailor-made crime prevention strategies that take into account local contexts, including by fostering among the general public a culture of lawfulness, cognizant of cultural diversity, based on respect for the rule of law, in order to, inter alia, advance cooperation among stakeholders and the police, promote positive conflict resolution, as well as community-oriented policing in accordance with national legislation, and prevent gang-related and urban crime and all forms of organized crime;

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into crime prevention

27. Mainstream a gender perspective into crime prevention policies, programmes, legislation and other actions to, inter alia, prevent all forms of gender-related violence, crime and victimization, including gender-related killings, by undertaking an analysis of gender-related specific needs and circumstances, as well as by soliciting contributions from impacted groups;

⁷ *Effective Management and Disposal of Seized and Confiscated Assets* (Vienna, 2017).

28. Prevent and counter domestic violence, and to that end, take effective measures within our domestic legislation, such as ensuring appropriate handling of cases, coordinating the role of welfare and criminal justice institutions and providing a safe environment for victims;

Children and youth in crime prevention

29. Address the needs and protect the rights of children and youth, with due consideration to their vulnerabilities, to ensure their protection from all forms of crime, violence, abuse and exploitation both online and offline, such as sexual abuse and exploitation of children and trafficking in persons, noting the particular vulnerabilities of children in the context of smuggling of migrants, as well as recruitment by organized criminal groups including gangs, as well as by terrorist groups;

Youth empowerment for crime prevention

30. Empower youth to become active agents of positive change in their communities to support crime prevention efforts, including by organizing social, educational, cultural, recreational, sports-related youth programmes and youth forums, as well as by using social media platforms and applications and other digital tools to amplify their voice;

Advancing the criminal justice system

Safeguarding victims' rights and protecting witnesses and reporting persons

31. Protect the rights and interests of victims of crime and make efforts to assist them at every stage of criminal justice proceedings, giving due attention to the special needs and circumstances of victims, including age, gender-specific and other needs, and disabilities, as well as to the harms caused by crime, including trauma, and endeavour to provide victims with the means that may assist in their recovery, including the possibility to obtain compensation and reparation;

32. Encourage victims to report crime by providing them with adequate support, including in criminal proceedings, such as effective access to translation services;

33. Take appropriate measures to provide effective protection for witnesses in criminal proceedings and for reporting persons;

34. Provide adequate resources and training to practitioners to strengthen their capacity to provide victim-centred assistance and support that take into account the specific needs of victims;

Improving prison conditions

35. Improve the detention conditions for both pretrial and post-trial detainees and the capacities of prison, correction and other relevant officers in this regard, including by promoting the practical application of relevant provisions of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),⁸ as well as the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);⁹

36. Take measures to address overcrowding in detention facilities and to improve the overall effectiveness and capacity of the criminal justice system,

⁸ Resolution 70/175, annex.

⁹ Resolution 65/229, annex.

including by considering the use of alternatives to pretrial detention and custodial sentences, giving due consideration to the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules);¹⁰

Reducing reoffending through rehabilitation and reintegration

37. Promote a rehabilitative environment in correctional facilities, including through designing and implementing effective treatment programmes based on an individual assessment of the needs and risks of offenders, and provide offenders with access to vocational and technical training and educational programmes to support them to develop the necessary skills for reintegration;

38. Promote a rehabilitative environment in the community to facilitate the social reintegration of offenders with the active involvement of local communities, giving due regard to the need to protect society and individuals and the rights of victims and offenders;

39. Promote multi-stakeholder partnerships to reduce reoffending by fostering inter-agency coordination among relevant government authorities, such as employment and social welfare agencies and local governments, as well as public-private partnerships between those authorities and the community, including cooperating employers and community volunteers who support the long-term and social reintegration of offenders;

40. Raise awareness of the importance of the public acceptance of offenders as members of the community and the significance of community engagement in assisting their long-term and social reintegration;

41. Promote, where appropriate, cooperation on the transfer of sentenced persons to serve the rest of their sentences in their own countries, conclude bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements in this regard as necessary, taking into consideration the rights of sentenced persons and issues relating to consent, rehabilitation and reintegration, as appropriate, and raise awareness among these prisoners about the availability of such measures;

42. Facilitate, where appropriate and in accordance with domestic legal frameworks, restorative justice processes at relevant stages in criminal proceedings in order to assist the recovery of victims and the reintegration of offenders, as well as to prevent crime and recidivism, and assess their usefulness in this regard;

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into criminal justice systems

43. Develop and implement appropriate and effective policies and plans to achieve gender equality and remove impediments to the advancement of women and women's empowerment in law enforcement and other criminal justice institutions at all levels, and in this regard pledge to take further concrete action to ensure the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action¹¹ and of the outcome documents as adopted at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;¹²

44. Mainstream a gender perspective into the criminal justice system by promoting gender-responsive measures that address the gender-specific needs of both offenders and victims, including the protection of women and girls from revictimization in criminal justice proceedings;

¹⁰ Resolution 45/110, annex.

¹¹ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

¹² Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

Addressing the vulnerabilities of children and youth in contact with the criminal justice system

45. Establish or strengthen juvenile justice systems or other similar proceedings that address the seriousness of the offending behaviour and the degree of responsibility of juveniles, as well as their vulnerabilities and the causes, including the root causes, and risk factors of their offending behaviour, in order to facilitate their rehabilitation and reintegration, including by promoting the practical application of relevant provisions of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules);¹³

46. Implement, and strengthen as appropriate, measures to assist the rehabilitation and reintegration of children and youth who have been involved in all forms of organized criminal groups including gangs, as well as in terrorist groups, while protecting their rights and giving full recognition to the importance of delivering justice and protecting the safety of victims of these criminal groups and society throughout the implementation of such measures;

Improving criminal investigation processes

47. Encourage the use and sharing of good practices on legally grounded, evidence-based interviewing methods designed to obtain only voluntary statements, thereby reducing the risk of unlawful, abusive and coercive measures being used during criminal investigation processes, and enable the obtaining of best evidence, thereby improving the legitimacy and quality of criminal investigations, prosecutions and convictions, and the efficient use of resources, as well as continue to welcome the collaboration between practitioners, experts and other relevant stakeholders on the elaboration of a set of international guidelines for non-coercive interviewing methods and procedural safeguards in this regard;

Promoting the rule of law

Access to justice and equal treatment before the law

48. Ensure equal access to justice and application of the law to all, including vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, including by taking appropriate measures to ensure treatment with respect and without discrimination or bias of any kind by criminal justice institutions;

Access to legal aid

49. Take measures to ensure access to timely, effective, adequately resourced and affordable legal aid for those without sufficient means or when the interests of justice so require, and raise awareness of the availability of such aid, including by promoting the practical application of relevant provisions of the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,¹⁴ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime tools on ensuring the quality of legal aid services in criminal justice processes and other related tools, by encouraging the development of guidance tools, as well as the collection and sharing of data on access to legal aid, and by developing a specialized network of legal aid providers to exchange information and best practices and to assist each other in carrying out their work;

¹³ Resolution 40/33, annex.

¹⁴ Resolution 67/187, annex.

National sentencing policies

50. Promote national sentencing policies, practices or guidelines for the treatment of offenders in which the severity of penalties for offenders is proportionate to the gravity of offences in accordance with national legislation;

Effective, accountable, impartial and inclusive institutions

51. Ensure the integrity and impartiality of law enforcement and other institutions comprising the criminal justice system, as well as the independence of the judiciary, and ensure the fair, effective, accountable, transparent and appropriate administration and delivery of justice, while taking into consideration the documents¹⁵ noted by relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions;

52. Take effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other relevant measures to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of torture and end impunity in this regard, and to prevent other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

Effective anti-corruption efforts

53. Effectively avail ourselves of existing tools of the international anti-corruption architecture, particularly by implementing the Convention against Corruption and the Organized Crime Convention, and other relevant tools where applicable;

54. Develop, adequately resource and implement effective policies and measures, including by, inter alia, enhancing the collection and assessment of data to analyse corruption and strengthening the integrity, transparency and accountability of public institutions, in order to prevent, detect, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate corruption in a holistic manner for ending impunity;

55. Ensure the use of appropriate measures to effectively disrupt the existing links between organized criminal groups and corruption, including by preventing and combating bribery and the laundering of proceeds of crime into the legitimate economy, and thus develop strategies to prevent and combat illicit financial flows;

56. Provide protection against any unjustified treatment for any persons who report acts of corruption in good faith and on reasonable grounds to the competent authorities, and thereby promote the reporting of corruption;

57. Investigate, prosecute and punish threats and acts of violence, falling within their jurisdiction, committed against journalists and media workers, whose professional duties put them at specific risk of intimidation, harassment and violence through the conduct of impartial, efficient and effective investigations, in particular in the context of fighting corruption and organized criminal activities, including in conflict and post-conflict situations, with a view to ending impunity for crimes committed against them, in accordance with national legislation and applicable international law;

58. Increase public awareness of means for reporting instances of corruption, including by disseminating information regarding the responsibilities and rights of reporting persons, including available measures for their protection;

¹⁵ These documents include the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary and its complementary document, the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct, the Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers and the Guidelines on the Role of Prosecutors, and the Istanbul Declaration on Transparency in the Judicial Process and measures for the effective implementation of the Istanbul Declaration.

Social, educational and other measures

59. Provide access to quality education and promote awareness-raising activities regarding law and policies, including public law-related education for all, to equip the public with the values, skills and knowledge necessary to foster among the general public a culture of lawfulness, cognizant of cultural diversity, based on respect for the rule of law;

Promoting international cooperation and technical assistance to prevent and address all forms of crime*International cooperation, including through capacity-building and technical assistance*

60. Actively participate in and contribute to the recently launched Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, as well as the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in order to assist States parties in the implementation of those instruments, identify and substantiate specific needs for technical assistance, share best practices and promote effective international cooperation;

61. Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of central authorities and other competent authorities responsible for facilitating international cooperation such as mutual legal assistance and extradition, including by providing adequate human and material resources, expertise and tools such as modern communications and case-management tools, enhancing capacity-building and technical assistance programmes and updating and disseminating tools such as the Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime knowledge management portal, the Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer Tool and the Directory of Competent National Authorities, with the cooperation and coordination of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

62. Strengthen effective international cooperation in criminal matters, including in the areas of extradition and mutual legal assistance, while effectively addressing existing challenges and difficulties, especially with regard to requests, and promoting good practices, facilitate the use of existing regional and international instruments, including the Convention against Corruption and the Organized Crime Convention, as a legal basis for extradition and mutual legal assistance cooperation, and implement and conclude, as necessary, agreements or arrangements to enhance international cooperation in this regard;

63. Establish or strengthen regional and cross-regional cooperation networks of law enforcement and other criminal justice practitioners to exchange information and best practices with a view to, inter alia, building trust among them and further facilitating international cooperation;

64. Facilitate the formal and, to the extent permitted under domestic law, non-formal exchange of information and communication necessary to prevent and combat crime, including through the support of intergovernmental organizations such as the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

65. Continue to enhance international cooperation through technical assistance and capacity-building, including with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and build upon ongoing initiatives and good practices such as the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration;

66. Promote, facilitate and support the widest measures of technical assistance, including material support and training, with a view to enabling law enforcement authorities and criminal justice institutions to effectively prevent and

combat crimes, taking into account the specific challenges faced by and the particular needs of developing countries;

67. Recognize the fundamental role of effective international cooperation in preventing and combating crime and to this end, underline the importance of addressing, tackling and effectively responding to international challenges and barriers, in particular measures, that hinder such cooperation, and which are not consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and obligations under international law, and in this regard urge States, consistent with their international obligations, to refrain from applying such measures;

International cooperation to deprive criminals of their proceeds of crime

68. Strengthen international cooperation and assistance regarding the identification, tracing, freezing, seizing and confiscation of proceeds or other property and instrumentalities of crime and their disposal including by return, including in accordance with all the relevant provisions and principles of the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption, and where appropriate, give special consideration to concluding agreements or mutually acceptable arrangements in this regard, on a case-by-case basis, for the return and final disposal of confiscated property pursuant to article 57, paragraph 5, of the Convention against Corruption, as well as due consideration to agreeing to measures to enhance transparency and accountability, recognizing that, consistent with article 4 of the Convention, States cannot unilaterally impose terms in this regard;

69. When resolving corruption-related cases that make use of alternative legal mechanisms and non-trial resolution including settlements, that have proceeds of crime for confiscation and return, make use of assistance from affected States, where appropriate and consistent with domestic law, in order to enhance international cooperation, information- and evidence-sharing and the recovery of proceeds of crime in accordance with the Convention against Corruption and domestic law;

70. Recognize asset recovery as an important element of crime prevention and criminal justice, particularly in cases involving corruption, and in that regard strengthen political will while safeguarding due process;

71. Encourage States to remove barriers and overcome obstacles to applying measures for the recovery of assets, in particular by simplifying their legal procedures, where appropriate and in accordance with domestic law, taking into consideration the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the use of returned assets in accordance with domestic laws and in line with domestic priorities, and bearing in mind that strengthening the recovery of stolen assets and their return will support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

72. Implement the measures necessary to obtain and share reliable information on beneficial ownership of companies, legal structures or other complex legal mechanisms, thus facilitating the investigation process and the execution of mutual legal assistance requests;

Terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

73. Strengthen cooperation at the international, regional and subregional levels to prevent and combat all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including by strengthening the rule of law at all levels and by ensuring the implementation by parties of the relevant international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism and by formulating strategies aimed at effectively addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism including violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, while recognizing that nothing

can justify acts of terrorism, and implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy¹⁶ in all its aspects at the international, subregional and national levels without delay, including by mobilizing resources and expertise;

74. Ensure more effective actions against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations wherever and by whomsoever committed, in particular investigations and prosecutions supported by credible and verifiable information and evidence, and to this end improve the collection, handling and preservation of relevant information and evidence, and consider participating in information- and evidence-sharing networks as appropriate;

75. Identify, analyse and counter any existing, growing or potential links, in some cases, between the financing of terrorism and transnational organized crime, illicit drug-related activities, money-laundering, kidnapping and hostage-taking with the aim of raising funds including by demands for ransom, and extortion, to prevent and tackle financial and logistical support to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons, in compliance with obligations under applicable international law;

76. Address the growing threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, including through the implementation of applicable international obligations, and underline the importance of United Nations capacity-building and facilitation of capacity-building in accordance with existing mandates to assist States, including those in the most-affected regions, upon their request;

77. Improve the security and resilience of critical infrastructure and the protection of particularly vulnerable “soft targets”, including through increased information-sharing among law enforcement, the private sector and the public;

78. Take appropriate measures to prevent and combat incitement to commit a terrorist attack and the spread of such terrorist propaganda, and expressing alarm at the glorification of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

New, emerging and evolving forms of crime

79. Strengthen measures to address new, emerging and evolving forms of crime, including by making maximum use of the relevant and applicable conventions, such as the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto through the measures contained therein, to prevent and combat crimes, facilitate international cooperation and confiscate and return the proceeds of crime;

80. Examine trends and the evolution of methods employed in the conduct of crime to develop effective means of international cooperation and technical assistance, including through enhanced information-sharing and an exchange of views, experiences and best practices within the framework of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and other relevant global and regional forums;

81. Strengthen efforts to prevent, counter and combat trafficking in persons, including by supporting data collection and sharing as appropriate, through relevant technical assistance by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, addressing factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking, detecting and dismantling trafficking networks, including in supply chains, discouraging demand that fosters exploitation leading to trafficking, ending impunity of trafficking networks, conducting financial investigations and using special investigative techniques under the conditions prescribed by domestic law, and protecting victims of trafficking in persons;

¹⁶ Resolution 60/288.

82. Adopt and implement effective measures to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants and protect the lives and the human rights of migrants, consistent with the respective obligations of parties under the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the Convention¹⁷ and all other relevant international obligations, especially on human rights, strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation in this regard, in particular to tackle, including through the concurrent undertaking of financial investigations and special investigative techniques, the increasing role of transnational and national organized criminal groups profiting from such crime and other crimes against migrants, and underscore to make every possible effort to prevent further casualties and loss of lives;

83. Foster global, regional and bilateral cooperation to prevent criminals and criminal organizations from accessing firearms, and strengthen mechanisms and strategies for border control for preventing and combating illicit trafficking in and diversion of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, including online trade, and the illicit reactivation of deactivated firearms;

84. Enhance cooperation to address and counter threats related to technological developments and changing *modi operandi* with regard to the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and investigate and prosecute these crimes, including by ensuring law enforcement cooperation, as well as the systematic tracing of seized arms;

85. Effectively address and counter the world drug problem, which requires concerted and sustained action at the national, regional and international levels, including accelerating the implementation of existing drug policy commitments, through a comprehensive and balanced approach and based on the principle of common and shared responsibility;

86. Take more effective measures to prevent and end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children, including child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse online and offline, by criminalizing such acts, supporting victims and fostering international cooperation to combat these crimes;

87. Adopt effective measures to prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment, such as illicit trafficking in wildlife, including, *inter alia*, flora and fauna as protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,¹⁸ in timber and timber products, in hazardous wastes and other wastes and in precious metals, stones and other minerals, as well as, *inter alia*, poaching, by making the best possible use of relevant international instruments and by strengthening legislation, international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts aimed at, *inter alia*, dealing with transnational organized crime, corruption and money-laundering linked to such crimes, and illicit financial flows derived from such crimes, while acknowledging the need to deprive criminals of proceeds of crime;

88. Encourage data collection and research on the manufacturing of and trafficking in falsified medical products, while recognizing, within its scope of application, the definition of falsified medical products endorsed by the World Health Assembly in 2017, and, taking this into account, strengthen, as appropriate, measures to respond to the manufacturing of and trafficking in falsified medical products;

89. Strengthen national and international responses to trafficking in cultural property and other crimes targeting cultural property, and any links to the financing

¹⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

of organized crime and terrorism, and enhance international cooperation in this regard, including through appropriate channels, the return or restitution of such illicitly trafficked cultural properties to countries of origin, taking into consideration existing instruments such as the Organized Crime Convention, the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,¹⁹ the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences,²⁰ and other relevant instruments, and with a view to considering all possible options to make effective use of the applicable international legal framework to combat crimes against cultural property, and considering any proposals to supplement the existing framework for international cooperation, as necessary;

90. Undertake efforts to better understand the smuggling of commercial goods with a view to strengthening our responses, in accordance with national law, to this type of crime and its possible linkages with corruption and other crimes;

91. Develop effective strategies, including by enhancing the capacity of criminal justice professionals, to prevent, investigate and prosecute hate crimes, as well as engage effectively with victims and victim communities to build public trust when engaging with law enforcement to report such crimes;

92. Strengthen measures to address the threat of other new, emerging and evolving forms of crime, as well as their possible links with organized criminal groups as a source of lucrative profits for their illicit activities;

93. Enhance coordination and international cooperation to effectively prevent and combat the growing threat of cybercrime;

94. Promote the appropriate utilization of technology by law enforcement and other criminal justice institutions through providing technical assistance upon request, capacity-building and necessary training, as well as improving legislation, regulations and policies so that they are adaptable to continuous technological developments;

95. Promote, at the national, regional and international levels, with due respect for domestic legal frameworks and the principles of international law, public-private partnerships with the digital industry, the financial sector and communication service providers to enhance international cooperation to combat cybercrime;

In order to ensure appropriate follow-up to this declaration and to our commitments:

96. We call upon the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in accordance with its mandate, to adopt the appropriate policy and operational measures for the follow-up to this declaration and to identify innovative ways to make use of information on progress made in the implementation of this declaration, and invite the Commission to engage with other relevant stakeholders, including the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, in order to strengthen global partnership in advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda;

97. We express our profound gratitude to the people and Government of Japan for their warm and generous hospitality and for the excellent facilities provided for the Fourteenth Congress.

¹⁹ Ibid., vol. 823, No. 11806.

²⁰ Resolution 69/196, annex.

Draft resolution II

Reducing reoffending through rehabilitation and reintegration

The General Assembly,

Recalling the outcome of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021, as reflected in the report of the Congress¹ and in the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,²

Reaffirming the commitment expressed in the Kyoto Declaration to reduce reoffending through rehabilitation and social reintegration,

Noting the deliberations of the Fourteenth Congress under the agenda item entitled “Integrated approaches to challenges facing the criminal justice system”, during which, inter alia, the need for practical guidance for national criminal justice systems on reducing reoffending and the recommendation to develop new United Nations standards and norms on the issue of reducing reoffending were raised by some Member States,

Noting also the discussions held at the workshop on the topic “Reducing reoffending: identifying risks and developing solutions” and the three subtopics, as reflected in the report of Committee II of the Fourteenth Congress, in particular the encouragement given by some participants to Member States to share information on promising practices and consider the development, under the auspices of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, of model strategies to reduce reoffending that reflect, among others, the good practices discussed during the workshop,³

Recalling the standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice adopted or recommended by the General Assembly, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),⁴ the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules)⁵ and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules),⁶ and at the same time acknowledging the need for standards and norms specifically focusing on reducing reoffending,

1. *Encourages* Member States to develop comprehensive strategies or action plans to reduce reoffending through effective interventions for the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders;

2. *Also encourages* Member States to promote a rehabilitative environment in correctional facilities, including through designing and implementing effective treatment programmes based on an individual assessment of the needs and risks of offenders, and to provide offenders with access to vocational and technical training and educational programmes to support them in developing the skills necessary for reintegration;

3. *Further encourages* Member States to promote a rehabilitative environment in the community to facilitate the social reintegration of offenders with

¹ [A/CONF.234/16](#).

² *Ibid.*, chap. I, resolution 1.

³ *Ibid.*, chap. VII, sect. B.

⁴ Resolution [70/175](#), annex.

⁵ Resolution [65/229](#), annex.

⁶ Resolution [45/110](#), annex.

the active involvement of local communities, giving due regard to the need to protect society and individuals and the rights of victims and offenders;

4. *Encourages* Member States to promote multi-stakeholder partnerships to reduce reoffending by fostering inter-agency coordination among relevant government authorities, such as employment and social welfare agencies and local governments, as well as public-private partnerships between those authorities and the community, including cooperating employers and community volunteers who support the long-term and social reintegration of offenders;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to convene an expert group meeting to share information on promising practices to reduce reoffending, with a view to developing model strategies on reducing reoffending, which can serve as useful tools for Member States, taking into account relevant provisions in the existing standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, current developments, research, tools and the outcome of the deliberations of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

6. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to support the efforts of Member States to reduce reoffending through the promotion of rehabilitative environments and reintegration, by providing technical assistance, including material support, upon their request, to Member States, in particular developing countries, taking into account their needs and priorities, as well as challenges and restrictions;

7. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes outlined in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

8. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its thirty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution III

Integrating sport into youth crime prevention and criminal justice strategies

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ and reaffirming also the cross-cutting nature of crime prevention and criminal justice issues and the consequent need to better integrate those issues into the wider agenda of the United Nations in order to enhance system-wide coordination,

Recalling the relevant United Nations standards and norms in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice, including the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime,² the guidelines for cooperation and technical assistance in the field of urban crime prevention,³ the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines),⁴ the updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,⁵ the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,⁶ the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules)⁷ and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),⁸

Recalling also its resolutions 74/16 of 9 December 2019, entitled “Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal”, 74/170 of 18 December 2019, entitled “Integrating sport into youth crime prevention and criminal justice strategies”, and 75/18 of 1 December 2020, entitled “Sport as an enabler of sustainable development”, in which it recognized the role of sport in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁹

Recalling further the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted at the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021,¹⁰ in which Member States committed to empowering youth to become active agents of positive change in their communities to support crime prevention efforts, including by organizing social, educational, cultural, recreational, sports-related youth programmes and youth forums, and recalling the outcome of workshop 3 of the Fourteenth Congress, on education and youth engagement as key to making societies resilient to crime,¹¹

Recognizing that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has affected youth, especially those who are in vulnerable situations, and that many of the hardships faced during the COVID-19 crisis in the fields of formal and non-formal

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/13, annex.

³ Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/9, annex.

⁴ Resolution 45/112, annex.

⁵ Resolution 65/228, annex.

⁶ Resolution 69/194, annex.

⁷ Resolution 40/33, annex.

⁸ Resolution 70/175, annex.

⁹ Resolution 70/1.

¹⁰ A/CONF.234/16, chap. I, resolution 1.

¹¹ Ibid., chap. VII, sect. C.

education and well-being and health, including mental health, in addition to economic dislocations, are also known risk factors associated with crime, violence and illicit drug-related activities and are likely to expose youth to increased victimization and involvement with crime during and after the pandemic,

Acknowledging that the recovery from the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the lessons learned provide an opportunity for Member States to design strategies to overcome the crisis, to accelerate progress towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to foster economic growth and build back better, including by promoting a socially just transition to sustainable development and by supporting inclusive, multisectoral and coordinated approaches to youth well-being,

Noting that the shared challenges that States face in strengthening their economies amid a global pandemic present an opportunity for transformative approaches to crime prevention and renewed efforts involving the youth, sport and education sectors, in particular working with a range of relevant stakeholders, including, where appropriate, with the support of efforts to engage and foster partnerships with multiple stakeholders, including partnerships involving the private sector, bearing in mind the primary role and responsibility of Member States in that regard,

Recognizing the role that sport can play in building back better and in engaging youth during and after the pandemic, as highlighted in the joint United Nations advocacy brief entitled “Recovering better: sport for development and peace – reopening, recovery and resilience post-COVID-19”, published in 2020,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Sport: a global accelerator of peace and sustainable development for all”,¹² in which the progress made towards the implementation of the United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace¹³ is reviewed and the role of sport as a catalyst of social and economic development, health and societal change in the post-COVID-19 landscape is highlighted,

Noting the memorandum of understanding between the Fédération Internationale de Football Association and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime signed on 14 September 2020, which provides a framework for cooperation between the two entities in the fields of using sport for youth development, preventing youth involvement in crime and illicit drug-related activities, and preventing and fighting corruption and crime in sport,

Recalling article 31 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,¹⁴ in which States parties recognize the right of the child to leisure and to engage in play and in recreational activities, and convinced of the importance of preventing the involvement of children and youth in criminal activities by supporting their development and strengthening their resilience to antisocial and delinquent behaviour, and of supporting the rehabilitation of children and youth in conflict with the law and their reintegration into society, taking into account human rights and the best interests of the child,

Underscoring the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention,

¹² [A/75/155/Rev.1](#).

¹³ See [A/61/373](#).

¹⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

Acknowledging the Olympic Charter and that any form of discrimination is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic movement,

Taking note of the Kazan Action Plan, adopted at the sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, convened by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Kazan, Russian Federation, in July 2017, in which the educational, cultural and social dimensions of sport and physical education are promoted, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda,

1. *Reaffirms* that sport is an important enabler of sustainable development, and recognizes the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development, justice and peace in its promotion of tolerance and respect and the contributions it makes to the empowerment of women and of young people, individuals and communities, as well as to health, education and social inclusion objectives, in line with the relevant Sustainable Development Goals;

2. *Expresses its gratitude and appreciation* to the Government of Thailand for hosting the expert group meeting on integrating sport into youth crime prevention and criminal justice strategies, convened by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Bangkok from 16 to 18 December 2019;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretariat on the outcome of that expert group meeting,¹⁵ at which good practices were identified and recommendations made on the effective use of sport to reduce youth crime and violence;

4. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that the necessary safeguards for participants are included in the design and implementation of sports-based crime prevention initiatives in order to prevent and combat sexual harassment, abuse and violence against children and youth in sport;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, as well as relevant stakeholders, to support and encourage relevant domestic authorities at all levels, including in local contexts, in the creation of safe spaces for sports and physical activities and in the provision of equal access to sports facilities for all youth;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective into sports-based crime prevention programmes and the need to provide a wide range of safe and accessible sports programmes for women and girls that reinforce their empowerment and gender equality;

7. *Also emphasizes* the importance of respecting cultural diversity in implementing sports-based crime prevention programmes;

8. *Welcomes* the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, particularly its efforts to support Member States in integrating sport into crime prevention and criminal justice strategies promoting a multisectoral and holistic approach to crime prevention, including through the development of tools and the provision of technical assistance in the context of the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration: Towards the Promotion of a Culture of Lawfulness, and in disseminating information and good practices on the use of sport for youth crime and violence prevention, building on global research and on lessons learned;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue promoting sports-based interventions in the context of youth-oriented, multisectoral and holistic approaches to the prevention of crime and violence, including by

¹⁵ [A/CONF.234/14](#).

formulating strategies aimed at comprehensively addressing the underlying conditions conducive to the spread of all types of crime and violence and by supporting Member States' efforts in this regard, also in partnership with other relevant United Nations entities;

10. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue supporting Member States, through technical assistance and the development of tailored guidance materials, with regard to the effective use of sport in the context of the rehabilitation and social reintegration of offenders, in prison and community settings, the empowerment of girls, the prevention of gender-based violence, and the safeguarding of participants in sports and sports-based interventions, in particular individuals in vulnerable situations, including children and women, from violence and abuse;

11. *Encourages* Member States to integrate sports-based interventions into crime prevention and criminal justice strategies and programmes with a view to addressing risk factors of crime and victimization, including during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, when possible and with adaptations such as proactive programme elements providing learning and social support for youth, particularly in schools and educational institutions, investing in capacity-building of trainers and facilitators, promoting an inclusive and participatory approach, ensuring safeguards for participants in sporting activities and maintaining the sustainability of such activities by engaging partners from multiple sectors;

12. *Calls upon* Member States, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to strengthen community-based support measures for youth to address risk factors of crime and violence, and encourages Member States to provide sports and recreational facilities and programmes so as to promote the primary, secondary and tertiary prevention of youth crime and the social reintegration of young offenders, also in the context of public safety strategies, enhancing the use of sport as a tool for the development of safe public spaces for young people and local communities to positively interact and develop;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in line with its mandate, in consultation with Member States and in collaboration with other relevant organizations and agencies, including relevant civil society organizations, to develop a compilation of best practices in relation to sports-based crime prevention programmes, as well as to provide, upon request, advice and support to policymakers and practitioners, including on research, monitoring and evaluation;

14. *Invites* Member States to consider the development of clear policy frameworks within which sports-based initiatives can be integrated into crime prevention and criminal justice strategies and programmes, and to operate to effect positive change in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, to prevent recidivism through sports and, in this regard, to promote and facilitate effective research, monitoring and evaluation of their own national initiatives and relevant international initiatives, including gang-related initiatives, to assess their impact;

15. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to strengthen its cooperation and coordination with relevant United Nations entities that have sports-based programmes and interventions, including the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and with the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme

network, and, in close consultation with Member States, to strengthen its cooperation with relevant international, regional and national sports organizations such as the International Olympic Committee and the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, so as to continue to support activities enhancing the contributions of sport to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, with a focus on youth and community development aimed at addressing the risk factors of youth violence, crime and illicit drug-related activities and promoting a healthy lifestyle to prevent risky behaviour while facilitating access to comprehensive drug demand reduction services and related measures, as appropriate, and at fostering social inclusion, peace and just societies, also through joint programmes and awareness-raising campaigns in the context of major sporting events, and to keep the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs updated about the progress made in this regard;

16. *Invites* the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, within their mandates, to consider including in their work programmes the issue of integrating sport into youth crime prevention and criminal justice in order to contribute to building the knowledge base in this regard, as well as to provide, upon request, advice and support to policymakers and practitioners, including on research, monitoring and evaluation, while noting the efforts of Member States to achieve the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

17. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide information on the implementation of the present resolution as a contribution to the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session on the implementation of its resolution [75/18](#) on sport as an enabler of sustainable development;

18. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Draft resolution IV

Strengthening criminal justice systems during and after the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, applicable international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ and reaffirming also its commitment to fully promoting and protecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as to upholding the principle of human dignity, in the impartial administration of justice and throughout all its efforts in preventing and combating crime,

Reaffirming also the responsibility of all States to uphold the Charter in its entirety and to fully respect the principles of sovereign equality, the territorial integrity of States and non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other States throughout all their efforts in preventing and combating crime,

Recalling the relevant United Nations standards and norms in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as General Assembly resolution 75/196 of 16 December 2020 on strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity, in which the Assembly recommended that Member States, as appropriate to their national contexts, adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on baseline assessments, regular data collection and analysis, and focusing on all sectors of the justice system, and develop 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,

Recalling also the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021,² in which Member States undertook to contribute to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development³ through efforts in crime prevention and criminal justice, with the firm recognition that sustainable development and the rule of law are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, that crime is an impediment to sustainable development and that achieving sustainable development is an enabling factor for States to effectively prevent and combat crime,

Recalling further the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice related primarily to the treatment of prisoners and other offenders in closed detention settings, in particular the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),⁴ the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),⁵ the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules)⁶ and the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty,⁷

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² A/CONF.234/16, chap. I, resolution 1.

³ Resolution 70/1.

⁴ Resolution 65/229, annex.

⁵ Resolution 70/175, annex.

⁶ Resolution 45/110, annex.

⁷ Resolution 45/113, annex.

Expressing grave concern about the situation arising from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and its social and economic implications, which have created new opportunities for and transformed the *modi operandi* of criminals and organized criminal groups in different forms and to different extents, and the challenges that it has posed to criminal justice in multiple aspects,

Expressing concern that the COVID-19 pandemic has posed challenges to international cooperation on criminal matters, including delays in some cases of mutual legal assistance, extradition and other measures related to the physical transfer of persons,

Noting that, in response to the threats posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Member States have taken measures that, in many cases, have resulted in the disruption of normal criminal justice services, temporarily diminishing capacity and challenging the ability of correctional institution staff, as well as law enforcement, prosecution services, the judiciary and others, to prevent and combat crimes and maintain fully functioning institutions of justice while also complying with necessary health measures, and noting with appreciation the dedication of these professional staff, whose tireless efforts have ensured effective crime prevention and criminal justice, notwithstanding the pandemic and related disruptions,

Gravely concerned about the vulnerability of prisons, especially in terms of health, safety and security, to the real risk of a rapid spread of COVID-19 in closed settings, which can be further aggravated by long-standing challenges such as prison overcrowding and poor prison conditions,

Reiterating, in the light of the ongoing experience of the COVID-19 pandemic and in preparation for any similar future challenges, the need to review criminal justice systems and to make them more effective, accountable, transparent, inclusive and responsive through, as appropriate, promoting digitalization, the use of technology, health-care services and health-related improvement measures to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, including for the protection of criminal justice staff and officials, rehabilitation and reintegration into society, and alternatives to pretrial detention and custodial sentences, in accordance with domestic law,

Recalling, against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, the endeavour expressed in the Kyoto Declaration with regard to promoting national sentencing policies, practices or guidelines for the treatment of offenders in which the severity of penalties for offenders is proportionate to the gravity of offences in accordance with national legislation,

Reaffirming the commitment to take decisive actions and action-oriented measures to address challenges and remove international impediments posed and aggravated by COVID-19 to crime prevention and criminal justice, including by a multilateral approach and strengthening the resilience of law enforcement and other criminal justice institutions through multilateral cooperation and cooperation with other relevant stakeholders in a multidisciplinary approach, where appropriate, and public-private partnerships, with special attention to the urgent capacity-building and technical assistance needs of developing countries in this regard, bearing in mind the long-term social and economic implications of the pandemic, including for sustainable development and international cooperation, and recognizing that the poorest and most vulnerable are among the hardest hit by the impact of the pandemic,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to implement, as appropriate, the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

2. *Underlines* that the COVID-19 pandemic poses cross-cutting, multifaceted challenges to the criminal justice system and that it requires comprehensive, integrated, multisectoral and coordinated responses, including through cooperation between the justice and health sectors;

3. *Recognizes* that the COVID-19 pandemic has affirmed that closed settings, including prisons, may exacerbate the spread of viral infections and that the pandemic and responses to it, including lockdown measures and other restrictions, such as an interruption in in-person prison visits, have presented challenges for criminal justice systems;

4. *Recommends* that Member States take into account lessons learned and best practices applied during the COVID-19 pandemic in an effort to make criminal justice systems more effective, accountable, transparent, inclusive, responsive and better prepared for similar future challenges, by recognizing the need to adapt to epidemics and pandemics, including through, as appropriate, promoting digitalization, the use of technology, health-care services and health-related improvement measures to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, including for the protection of criminal justice staff and officials, rehabilitation and reintegration into society, and alternatives to pretrial detention and custodial sentences, in accordance with domestic law, and to that end examine alternatives and promote the exchange of information on how to address the challenges to such reform efforts, including funding;

5. *Encourages* Member States, in implementing holistic and comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies, to promote, as appropriate, alternatives to imprisonment, from the pretrial stage to the post-sentencing stage, taking into account the background, gender, age and other specific circumstances of offenders, including their vulnerability, such as in relation to health, and the objective of their rehabilitation and reintegration into society;

6. *Also encourages* Member States, against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, to take appropriate measures to ensure that, subject to their constitutional principles and the basic concepts of their legal systems, sentencing for criminal offences is proportionate to the gravity of the offence;

7. *Further encourages* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into their criminal justice systems and to take into account the specific needs of women prisoners and women offenders when developing, monitoring and evaluating responses to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to the criminal justice system;

8. *Recommends* that Member States promote the application of the relevant provisions of the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty, the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), in particular in terms of improving the detention conditions for both pretrial and post-trial detainees and the capacities of prison and correctional institution staff and other relevant officers, and promoting health-care services in prisons;

9. *Also recommends* that Member States take appropriate measures to improve the overall effectiveness and capacity of the criminal justice system, including by addressing overcrowding in detention and correctional facilities, ensuring access to timely, effective, adequately resourced and affordable legal aid for those without sufficient means or when the interests of justice so require, providing adequate human and material resources, expertise and tools, including modern communications and case-management tools, to facilitate international cooperation,

such as mutual legal assistance and extradition, and considering the use of alternatives to pretrial detention and custodial sentences along with restorative justice processes at relevant stages of criminal justice proceedings in accordance with domestic legislation, giving due consideration to the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules) and preventive measures such as community outreach;

10. *Further recommends* that Member States endeavour to promote a rehabilitative environment in correctional facilities, including through designing and implementing effective treatment programmes based on an individual assessment of the needs and risks of offenders, and provide offenders with access to vocational and technical training and educational programmes, which create opportunities to develop the skills and knowledge needed for joining the workforce and successfully reintegrating into society and reducing the risks of reoffending, which may, inter alia, help in addressing the problem of prison overcrowding;

11. *Stresses* the importance of a multidisciplinary approach to strengthening criminal justice systems, including the involvement, as appropriate, of relevant stakeholders and public-private partnerships, and enhancing domestic inter-agency cooperation, capacity-building for criminal justice officials and practitioners and specialized training and education for prison staff and relevant criminal justice officials, as well as the importance of improving prison management and preparing for health-related challenges;

12. *Invites* Member States to exchange, including through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, information on national legislation, best practices and technical assistance and to strengthen international cooperation in addressing the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to the criminal justice system, including to its facilities, institutions and non-custodial settings, taking into account the contributions of relevant stakeholders such as civil society and academia, where appropriate and in accordance with domestic law, with a view to better preparing for similar future challenges;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as the leading entity of the United Nations supporting Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice through the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building, based on their needs and priorities, as well as through its normative work, research and expertise, to conduct in close consultation with Member States, and within existing extrabudgetary resources, further studies on the impact of COVID-19 on criminal justice systems and to provide recommendations on advancing criminal justice reforms, with an emphasis on the future preparedness of the criminal justice system, in particular prison systems, to tackle challenges arising from pandemics and widespread health-related issues;

14. *Invites* the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network to consider including in their work programmes the issue of criminal justice system reform in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic with a view to understanding how such reforms can be achieved more effectively, including, where appropriate, by strengthening cooperation between the justice and health sectors, taking into account the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and targets, contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and noting the efforts of Member States to achieve them;

15. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Draft resolution V Preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [67/189](#) of 20 December 2012, [68/193](#) of 18 December 2013, [69/197](#) of 18 December 2014, [70/178](#) of 17 December 2015, [71/209](#) of 19 December 2016, [72/196](#) of 19 December 2017, [73/186](#) of 17 December 2018, [74/177](#) of 18 December 2019 and [75/196](#) of 16 December 2020, entitled “Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity”, in which the Assembly expressed deep concern about crimes that affect the environment and emphasized the need to combat such crimes by strengthening international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts, as well as its resolutions [69/314](#) of 30 July 2015, [70/301](#) of 9 September 2016, [71/326](#) of 11 September 2017 and [73/343](#) of 16 September 2019, entitled “Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife”,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions [1989/62](#) of 24 May 1989, entitled “Concerted international action against the forms of crime identified in the Milan Plan of Action”, [1992/22](#) of 30 July 1992, entitled “Implementation of General Assembly resolution [46/152](#) concerning operational activities and coordination in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice”, [1993/28](#) of 27 July 1993, [1994/15](#) of 25 July 1994 and [1996/10](#) of 23 July 1996, entitled “The role of criminal law in the protection of the environment”, as well as resolutions [2001/12](#) of 24 July 2001, [2002/18](#) of 24 July 2002, [2003/27](#) of 22 July 2003, [2011/36](#) of 28 July 2011 and [2013/40](#) of 25 July 2013 on crime prevention and criminal justice responses to illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora, resolution [2008/25](#) of 24 July 2008 on international cooperation in preventing and combating illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources, and resolutions [2013/38](#) of 25 July 2013 and [2019/23](#) of 23 July 2019 on combating illicit trafficking in precious metals and illegal mining,

Recalling further Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions [16/1](#) of 27 April 2007¹ and [23/1](#) of 16 May 2014² on trafficking in forest products, including timber, and resolution [28/3](#) of 24 May 2019 entitled “Strengthening regional and international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice responses to illicit trafficking in wildlife”,³

Recalling resolutions [1/3](#) of 27 June 2014⁴ and [2/14](#) of 27 May 2016⁵ of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme on the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products,

Welcoming the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021,⁶ in which Heads of State and Government, Ministers and Representatives of Member States expressed deep concern about the negative impact of crime on the environment and affirmed their endeavour to adopt effective measures to prevent and

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 10 (E/2007/30/Rev.1)*, chap. I, sect. D.

² *Ibid.*, 2014, *Supplement No. 10 (E/2014/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

³ *Ibid.*, 2019, *Supplement No. 10 (E/2019/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/69/25)*, annex.

⁵ *Ibid.*, *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/71/25)*, annex.

⁶ [A/CONF.234/16](#), chap. I, resolution 1.

combat crimes that affect the environment, such as illicit trafficking in wildlife, including, inter alia, flora and fauna as protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,⁷ in timber and timber products, in hazardous wastes and other wastes and in precious metals, stones and other minerals, as well as, inter alia, poaching, by making the best possible use of relevant international instruments and by strengthening legislation, international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts aimed at, inter alia, dealing with transnational organized crime, corruption and money-laundering linked to such crimes, and illicit financial flows derived from such crimes, while acknowledging the need to deprive criminals of proceeds of crime,

Reaffirming the central role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the main policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and recalling that in the Kyoto Declaration the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was called upon, in accordance with its mandate, to adopt the appropriate policy and operational measures for the follow-up to the Declaration and to identify innovative ways to make use of information on progress made in the implementation of the Declaration, and invited the Commission to engage with other relevant stakeholders, including the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, in order to strengthen global partnership in advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁸

Reaffirming also that States are to carry out their obligations to combat transnational organized crime as well as corruption in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and international law and with human rights and fundamental freedoms, and recalling in that regard that States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime⁹ and the United Nations Convention against Corruption¹⁰ have also committed themselves to carrying out their respective obligations to combat transnational organized crime as well as corruption in a manner consistent with all the provisions of those conventions, including the purposes and the principles stated in their articles 1 and 4,

Reaffirming further that every State has, and shall freely exercise, full and permanent sovereignty over all its natural resources,

Recognizing the primary role and responsibility of States in defining their policies and strategies to prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment, acknowledging the central role played by States in the prevention of and the fight against corruption as it relates to such crimes, and recalling the commitment of States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption to carry out those obligations in a manner consistent with article 4 of those conventions,

Alarmed by existing research indicating that crimes that affect the environment have become some of the most lucrative transnational criminal activities and are often closely interlinked with different forms of crime and corruption and that money-laundering and the illicit financial flows derived from them may contribute to the financing of other transnational organized crimes and terrorism,

⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

⁸ Resolution 70/1.

⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

Taking note of the existing research on the cost of crimes that affect the environment,

Deeply concerned about all those killed, injured, threatened or exploited by organized criminal groups involved in or benefiting from crimes that affect the environment and about those whose living environment, safety, health or livelihoods are endangered or put at risk by those crimes, and affirming its resolve to assist and protect those affected, in accordance with national law,

Deeply concerned also that activities of organized criminal groups that affect the environment hinder and undermine efforts undertaken by States to protect the environment, promote the rule of law and achieve sustainable development, including efforts to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing that crimes that affect the environment may also have a negative impact on economies, public health, human safety, food security, livelihoods and habitats,

Welcoming Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime resolution 10/6 of 16 October 2020, entitled “Preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment falling within the scope of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime”,¹¹ in which the Conference urged States parties to implement the Organized Crime Convention, in accordance with fundamental principles of their domestic law, in order to effectively prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish crimes that affect the environment falling within the scope of the Convention, as well as related offences established under the Convention,

Recognizing the fundamental role of effective international cooperation in preventing and combating crime and to this end underlining the importance of addressing, tackling and effectively responding to international challenges and barriers, in particular measures, that hinder such cooperation and which are not consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and obligations under international law, and in this regard urging States, consistent with their international obligations, to refrain from applying such measures,

Welcoming Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption resolution 8/12 of 20 December 2019, entitled “Preventing and combating corruption as it relates to crimes that have an impact on the environment”,¹² in which the Conference urged States parties to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in accordance with their domestic legislation, and to ensure respect for its provisions, with a view to making best use of the Convention to prevent and combat corruption as it relates to crimes that have an impact on the environment and the recovery and return of proceeds of such crimes, in accordance with the Convention,

Recognizing the legal framework provided by and the important role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora as the primary mechanism for regulating international trade in species of wild fauna and flora listed in its appendices, as well as the importance of other multilateral environmental agreements, such as, among others, the Convention on Biological Diversity¹³ and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal,¹⁴

¹¹ See [CTOC/COP/2020/10](#), sect. I.A.

¹² See [CAC/COSP/2019/17](#), sect. I.B.

¹³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 1673, No. 28911.

Recognizing also the need for a balanced, integrated, comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach and response to address the complex and multifaceted challenges related to crimes that affect the environment, and acknowledging that long-term comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented responses are required to address and overcome those challenges,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity of the United Nations supporting Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice through the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building, as well as through its normative work, research and expertise, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders,

Recalling the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment,

Expressing appreciation for the Environmental Security Programme established in 2010 by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to support Member States in investigations and coordinate transnational operations against crimes that affect the environment,

Welcoming the first and second editions of the *World Wildlife Crime Report*, published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in 2016 and 2020, and taking note of other reports and studies¹⁵ on crimes that affect the environment published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Environment Programme, INTERPOL, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, the World Bank and other relevant international and regional organizations, which may serve as useful inputs,

Acknowledging the valuable contributions of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Environment Programme, INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, the World Bank, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and other relevant international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, in supporting States in their efforts to effectively prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment, including through inter-agency effective partnerships, such as the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime and the Green Customs Initiative, and

¹⁵ Reports and studies such as Christian Nellemann and others, eds., *The Rise of Environmental Crime: A Growing Threat to Natural Resources, Peace, Development and Security – A UNEP-INTERPOL Rapid Response Assessment* (Nairobi, 2016); United Nations Environment Programme and INTERPOL, *Strategic Report: Environment, Peace and Security: A Convergence of Threats* (2016); United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute: *Strengthening the Security and Integrity of the Precious Metals Supply Chain: Technical Report* (Torino, Italy, 2016); United Nations Environment Programme, *The State of Knowledge of Crimes that Have Serious Impacts on the Environment* (Nairobi, 2018); INTERPOL, Norwegian Center for Global Analyses and Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime, *World Atlas of Illicit Flows* (2018); International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and World Bank, *Illegal Logging, Fishing, and Wildlife Trade: The Costs and How to Combat it* (Washington, D.C., 2019); INTERPOL, *Strategic Analysis Report: Emerging Criminal Trends in the Global Plastic Waste Market since January 2018* (Lyon, France, 2020).

underscoring in this regard the crucial importance of further enhancing inter-agency cooperation and coordination on the matter, as appropriate,

Acknowledging also the important contributions of other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, individuals and groups outside the public sector, non-governmental organizations, the media, academia and the scientific community, in preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment, as well as corruption as it relates to such crimes,

1. *Urges* Member States to adopt effective measures to prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment, such as illicit trafficking in wildlife, including, inter alia, flora and fauna as protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, in timber and timber products, in hazardous wastes and other wastes and in precious metals, stones and other minerals, as well as, inter alia, poaching, by making the best possible use of relevant international instruments and by strengthening legislation, international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts aimed at, inter alia, dealing with transnational organized crime, corruption and money-laundering linked to such crimes, and illicit financial flows derived from such crimes, while acknowledging the need to deprive criminals of proceeds of crime;

2. *Urges* States, in this regard, to adopt concrete and effective measures to recover and return, in appropriate cases, the proceeds of such crimes, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and emphasizes the importance of removing obstacles to applying measures for the recovery and return of those assets and proceeds;

3. *Affirms* that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption constitute effective tools and an important part of the legal framework for, respectively, preventing and combating transnational organized crimes that affect the environment, and corruption as it relates to such crimes, and for strengthening international cooperation in this regard;

4. *Encourages* the States parties to the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption, respectively to take full advantage of Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime resolution 10/6 of 16 October 2020 and Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption resolution 8/12 of 20 December 2019;

5. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to make crimes that affect the environment, in appropriate cases, serious crimes, as defined in article 2, subparagraph (b), of the Organized Crime Convention, in accordance with their national legislation, in order to ensure that, where the offence is transnational in nature and involves an organized criminal group, effective international cooperation can be afforded under the Convention;

7. *Also calls upon* Member States to develop or amend national legislation, as necessary and appropriate, in accordance with fundamental principles of their domestic law, so that crimes that affect the environment falling within the scope of the Organized Crime Convention are treated as predicate offences, as defined in the Convention and as mandated in its article 6, for the purposes of money-laundering offences and are actionable under domestic legislation on proceeds of crime, so that assets derived from crimes that affect the environment can be seized, confiscated and disposed of;

8. *Urges* Member States, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, to investigate and prosecute the laundering of proceeds of crime derived from transnational organized crimes that affect the environment, including by using financial investigation techniques, with a view to identifying, disrupting and dismantling the criminal groups involved, to strive to eliminate incentives for the transfer abroad of the proceeds of crime, thereby denying safe haven to those proceeds, and to recover the proceeds of such crimes;

9. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen at the national level, in accordance with domestic legislation and their respective international legal obligations, crime prevention and criminal justice responses against crimes that affect the environment, as well as corruption and money-laundering related to such crimes, including by establishing or developing integrated and multidisciplinary responses, establishing the liability of legal persons for such serious crimes, as appropriate, and by reinforcing, where necessary and if appropriate, the capacities, training and specialization of relevant law enforcement and judicial authorities for effectively preventing, detecting, investigating, prosecuting and punishing crimes that affect the environment, as well as cooperation with relevant stakeholders from civil society;

10. *Calls upon* States, consistent with the Organized Crime Convention and in accordance with national legislation, to take all appropriate measures within their means to provide effective assistance to and protection for witnesses and victims of crimes that affect the environment, and to establish appropriate procedures to provide access to compensation and restitution for victims of the offences covered by the Organized Crime Convention, and, in this regard, encourages States to consider providing access to civil compensation and habitat restoration for damage caused to the environment and to victims;

11. *Also calls upon* States, in accordance with national legislation, to take all appropriate measures within their means to provide effective assistance and protection for those persons who contribute to combating in a peaceful manner crimes that affect the environment;

12. *Strongly encourages* Member States, in accordance with their national legislation, to improve and enhance the collection, quality, availability and analysis of data on crimes that affect the environment, consider undertaking national statistical capacity-building in this regard and share such data on a voluntary basis with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, consistent with its mandate, in order to strengthen research and analysis on global trends and patterns in crimes that affect the environment and to improve the effectiveness of strategies aimed at preventing and combating them;

13. *Also strongly encourages* Member States to increase the exchange of information and knowledge on crimes that affect the environment among national authorities, as well as with other Member States and relevant international and regional organizations, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), in accordance with domestic legislation and their respective international legal obligations;

14. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, in close consultation and cooperation with Member States, and in close coordination with the United Nations Environment Programme, INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, the World Bank and other relevant competent intergovernmental organizations such as the secretariats of multilateral environmental conventions and agreements, as appropriate and within their mandates, including through inter-agency partnerships, such as the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime, to strengthen the collection, analysis and

dissemination of accurate and reliable data and information to enhance knowledge on trends in crimes that affect the environment, and to report to Member States thereon on a periodic basis;

15. *Calls upon* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to hold during the intersessional period expert discussions on preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment in order to discuss concrete ways to improve strategies and responses to effectively prevent and combat these crimes and to strengthen international cooperation at the operational level on this matter, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources and within its mandate, to provide technical assistance and capacity-building to Member States, upon request, for the purposes of supporting their efforts to effectively prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment, as well as corruption and money-laundering related to such crimes;

17. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to further enhance and expand its cooperation and coordination with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, and, in close consultation with Member States, enhance its cooperation with INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the World Bank, the secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and other relevant international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, in supporting Member States, upon request, in their efforts to effectively prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment, including through inter-agency partnerships, such as the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime and the Green Customs Initiative;

18. *Invites* Member States to consider initiatives such as the INTERPOL concept of national environmental security task forces in order to promote integrated and multidisciplinary responses to better address crimes that affect the environment;

19. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes set out in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution VI Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons

The General Assembly,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, which constitutes an offence and a serious threat to human dignity and physical integrity, human rights and sustainable development,

Reiterating its concern that, despite sustained measures taken at the international, regional and national levels, trafficking in persons remains one of the grave challenges facing the international community, which also impairs the enjoyment of human rights and needs a more concerted collective and comprehensive international response,

Bearing in mind that all States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish perpetrators of trafficking in persons and to protect and assist victims, and that not doing so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the victims,

Recognizing that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic is one of the greatest global challenges in the history of the United Nations, and noting with deep concern its impact on health and the loss of life, mental health and well-being, as well as the negative impact on global humanitarian needs, the enjoyment of human rights and across all spheres of society, including on livelihoods, food security and nutrition, education, the exacerbation of poverty and hunger, disruption to economies, trade, societies, environments, and the exacerbation of economic and social inequalities within and among countries, which exacerbate existing vulnerabilities to trafficking and create new challenges to combating the crime of trafficking in persons,

Noting that reports have highlighted a sharp increase in unemployment rates brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic that is likely to worsen the circumstances for those most at risk of falling victim to trafficking in persons, in particular in countries experiencing the fastest and most persistent drops in employment,

Recalling the adoption by the General Assembly of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,¹ and recalling also the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals on eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation,² on taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and trafficking in persons and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms,³ and on ending abuse and exploitation of, trafficking in and all forms of violence against and torture of children,⁴

Recalling also the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,⁵ as well as its supplementing Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,⁶ which provided the definition of the crime of trafficking in persons, welcoming the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of both instruments, and further acknowledging the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution

¹ Resolution 70/1.

² Target 5.2.

³ Target 8.7.

⁴ Target 16.2.

⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

and child pornography⁷ and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,⁸

Taking note of the adoption of the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), of the International Labour Organization, which recognizes that trafficking in persons for the purposes of forced or compulsory labour is the subject of growing international concern,

Recalling the adoption of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons by the General Assembly in its resolution [64/293](#) of 30 July 2010, and underlining the importance of its full implementation,

Reaffirming that the Global Plan of Action was developed:

(a) To promote universal ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, as well as other relevant international instruments that address trafficking in persons, and to reinforce the implementation of existing instruments against trafficking in persons,

(b) To help Member States to reinforce their political commitments and legal obligations to prevent and combat trafficking in persons,

(c) To promote comprehensive, coordinated and consistent responses at the national, regional and international levels to counter trafficking in persons,

(d) To promote a human rights-based, gender- and age-sensitive approach in addressing all factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking in persons and strengthening the criminal justice response, which are necessary to prevent trafficking in persons, protect its victims and prosecute its perpetrators,

(e) To raise awareness within the United Nations system and also among States and other stakeholders, such as the private sector, civil society and the international and national mass media, and the public at large,

(f) To foster cooperation and coordination among all relevant stakeholders, including Member States, international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, and within various entities of the United Nations system, taking into account existing best practices and lessons learned,

Recalling its resolutions [61/180](#) of 20 December 2006, [64/178](#) of 18 December 2009, [67/190](#) of 20 December 2012, [68/192](#) of 18 December 2013, [70/179](#) of 17 December 2015, [72/195](#) of 19 December 2017 and [74/176](#) of 18 December 2019 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and its other relevant resolutions on trafficking in persons,⁹

Recalling also its resolutions [71/322](#) of 8 September 2017, [73/189](#) of 17 December 2018 and [75/195](#) of 16 December 2020, entitled “Strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs”,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolutions [2017/18](#) of 6 July 2017 and [2021/25](#) of 22 July 2021 on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action and previous Council resolutions on trafficking in persons,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution [44/4](#) of 16 July 2020, entitled “Trafficking in persons, especially women and children: strengthening human rights through enhanced protection, support and empowerment of victims of trafficking,

⁷ Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.

⁸ Ibid., vol. 266, No. 3822.

⁹ Resolutions [55/67](#), [58/137](#), [59/166](#), [61/144](#), [63/156](#) and [63/194](#).

especially women and children”,¹⁰ and other relevant resolutions of the Council on trafficking in persons,

Recalling also Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 27/2 of 18 May 2018, entitled “Preventing and combating trafficking in persons facilitated by the criminal misuse of information and communications technologies”,¹¹ and the other relevant resolutions of the Commission on trafficking in persons,

Welcoming the adoption of General Assembly resolution 75/283 of 7 June 2021, entitled “Modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons”, providing for the organization of the high-level meeting and the adoption of a political declaration by the Assembly,

Taking note of the reference to preventing, countering and combating trafficking in persons and to the vulnerabilities of children in the context of addressing trafficking in persons in the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021,¹²

Recalling the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 19 September 2016,¹³ in which States declared that they would, with full respect for their obligations under international law, vigorously combat trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling with a view to their elimination, including through targeted measures to identify victims of trafficking in persons or those at risk of trafficking, provide support for the victims of trafficking in persons and work to prevent trafficking in persons among those affected by displacement,

Recognizing the important role of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons in fostering coordination and cooperation in the global fight against trafficking in persons, within the existing mandates of its members and partners,¹⁴

¹⁰ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/75/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

¹¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 10 (E/2018/30)*, chap. I, sect. C.

¹² [A/CONF.234/16](#), chap. I, resolution 1.

¹³ Resolution 71/1.

¹⁴ The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, the United Nations Population Fund, the World Bank, the Department of Peace Operations of the Secretariat, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs of the Secretariat, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, as well as the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the Council of Europe, the Organization of American States and the Council of the Baltic Sea States as partners of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group.

Recognizing also that the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, within its mandate, contributes to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, taking note with appreciation of the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as coordinator of the Coordination Group, as well as the activities of the members of the Coordination Group acting on a rotational basis as Chair of the working group of the Coordination Group, and encouraging the more robust participation of all members of the Coordination Group,

Taking note with appreciation of the work of the 2019 and 2020 Co-Chairs of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, including the convening of the first consultative briefing outside of the United Nations system, at the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons Conference, and of the second meeting of the Coordination Group at the level of principals of the relevant United Nations agencies and organizations, including those agencies that are not active members of the Coordination Group, held in virtual format on 15 December 2020, and taking note with appreciation of the work of the 2021 Co-Chairs of the Coordination Group, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including the provision of a joint submission to support the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons and the convening of the high-level event on trafficking in persons and sustainable procurement in virtual format on 27 September 2021,

Taking note with appreciation also of the thematic focus of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on trafficking in children, trafficking in persons and technology, the non-punishment of trafficking victims and on measures to prevent trafficking in persons in supply chains, including in public procurement and in the procurement of goods and services by the United Nations, as well as on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on trafficking in persons and the necessity of a victim-centred approach, and taking note of the Coordination Group plan of action, endorsed at the principal-level meeting on 15 December 2020,

Recalling that the Inter-Agency Coordination Group was established to foster cooperation among relevant United Nations agencies and other international organizations involved in combating trafficking in persons in countries around the world using, to the extent possible, mechanisms already in place at the regional and national levels, and to share information, experiences and good practices relating to the activities of the partner agencies to counter trafficking with Governments, international and regional organizations and other relevant bodies,

Emphasizing the central role of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the global fight against trafficking in persons, particularly in providing technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, to implement the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, by making use of existing capacity-building tools, lessons learned from Member States and expertise available in other international organizations,

Recognizing the need to continue to foster a global partnership against trafficking in persons among all stakeholders and the need to continue to work towards an enhanced comprehensive and coordinated approach to prevent and combat trafficking and to protect and assist victims of trafficking in persons through the appropriate national, regional and international mechanisms,

Recognizing also the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on good practices, of Governments and of intergovernmental and

non-governmental organizations to address the crime of trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Taking note with appreciation of the different initiatives of Member States, promoted in the United Nations to contribute to the global fight against trafficking in persons,¹⁵

Recalling that trafficking in persons is fuelled by high profits for traffickers and demand that fosters all forms of exploitation, with trafficking in persons disproportionately affecting women and girls, who are particularly vulnerable to trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation,

Stressing the need to take appropriate measures to ensure access to justice and protections for victims in criminal justice processes, including measures to ensure that identified victims of trafficking in persons are not penalized for having been trafficked and that they do not suffer from victimization as a result of actions taken by government authorities, communities and families,

Recognizing that broad international cooperation between Member States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations is essential for effectively countering the threat of trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,

Recognizing also that victims of trafficking are often subject to multiple forms of discrimination and violence, including on the grounds of gender, age, disability, ethnicity, culture and religion, as well as national or social origin, and that these forms of discrimination may themselves fuel trafficking in persons, and that women and children without nationality or without birth registration are particularly vulnerable to trafficking in persons,

Recognizing further the potential of the Internet and other information and communications technologies to prevent and combat trafficking in persons and to assist victims, stressing the need for increased law enforcement cooperation in this regard to address the new challenges generated by the rapid development of the Internet and other information and communications technologies, expressing concern that perpetrators of trafficking in persons have misused the Internet and other information and communications technologies to facilitate trafficking in persons, including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, for the purpose of recruitment and exploitation, especially of women and children, and controlling victims,

Stressing the need to promote and protect the rights of victims of trafficking in persons and to reintegrate victims into the community, including by taking into account, where appropriate, the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking¹⁶ and the commentary thereon developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as the Guidelines on the Protection of Child Victims of Trafficking developed by the United Nations Children's Fund,

Welcoming the efforts of Member States, United Nations agencies, international organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector and financial institutions to address the problem of trafficking in persons, including women and children as the most vulnerable group, and emphasizing the urgent need for them to further enhance

¹⁵ Such as, inter alia, Alliance 8.7; Finance Against Slavery and Trafficking; the call to action to end forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking; the principles to guide government action to combat human trafficking in global supply chains; and the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime.

¹⁶ [E/2002/68/Add.1](#).

their efforts and cooperation to build the evidence base, including by sharing their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible,

Affirming that capacity-building is a very important component in combating trafficking in persons, and in this regard stressing the need to intensify international cooperation to combat trafficking in persons, as well as technical assistance for countries aimed at strengthening their ability to prevent all forms of trafficking, including supporting their development programmes,

Taking note of the Khartoum process and its Declaration adopted in Khartoum on 16 October 2014 during the Regional Ministerial Conference on Human Trafficking and Smuggling in the Horn of Africa, coordinated by the African Union, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration, which aimed to strengthen national, regional and international cooperation and build capacities in the African countries to combat trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling,

Taking note also of the Second Work Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons in the Western Hemisphere 2015–2018, adopted by States members of the Organization of American States at the fourth Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons, held on 4 and 5 December 2014 in Brasilia, and extended until 2022 by States members at the sixth Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons, held in virtual format on 13 and 14 May 2021 in Washington, D.C.,

Recognizing that the Global Plan of Action and the establishment of the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, established in compliance with the Global Plan of Action, aim at raising awareness of the situation of victims of trafficking in persons and at providing them with humanitarian, legal and financial aid through established channels of assistance, such as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

Reaffirming the importance of humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons, including through governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, managed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations voluntary trust fund on contemporary forms of slavery, managed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the International Organization for Migration Global Assistance Fund,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,¹⁷

Taking note also of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,¹⁸ as well as the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Council on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences,¹⁹ and of the Special Rapporteur of the Council on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material,²⁰

Recognizing that, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention is established to improve the capacity of States parties to combat transnational organized crime and to promote and review the implementation of the Convention, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons,

¹⁷ A/76/120.

¹⁸ A/76/263.

¹⁹ A/76/170.

²⁰ A/76/144.

Especially Women and Children, and in this regard taking note of resolution 10/1 of 16 October 2020, entitled “Launch of the review process of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto” and resolution 10/3, also of 16 October 2020, entitled “Effective implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime”, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth session, held in Vienna from 12 to 16 October 2020,²¹

Recalling the request made to the Secretary-General by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/293 to include, within existing reporting obligations to the Assembly under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice, a section on the implementation by the United Nations system of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

1. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and also urges States parties to those instruments to fully and effectively implement their obligations;

2. *Urges* Member States and other stakeholders mentioned in the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,²² and invites the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, to continue to contribute to the full and effective implementation of the Global Plan of Action, including by means of strengthening cooperation and improving coordination among themselves in achieving that goal;

3. *Calls upon* Governments to closely follow developments in the area of international protection of victims of trafficking in persons in order to protect the human rights of such persons and to ensure compliance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law;

4. *Recalls* the holding of the high-level meetings of the General Assembly during its sixty-seventh session, from 13 to 15 May 2013, during its seventy-second session, on 27 and 28 September 2017, and during its seventy-sixth session, to appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, which, *inter alia*, reiterated strong political will to step up efforts against trafficking in persons;

5. *Also recalls* its decision, in its resolution 68/192, to appraise, from within existing resources, on a four-year basis starting at its seventy-second session, the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action in order to assess achievements, gaps and challenges, including in the implementation of the relevant legal instruments, and therefore decides to convene a high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action at its eightieth session, after the general debate, but no later than December 2025;

²¹ See CTOC/COP/2020/10, sect. I.A.

²² Resolution 64/293.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly, in close cooperation and coordination with Member States, to take all appropriate measures to arrange the high-level meeting;

7. *Recalls* its decision to designate 30 July as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, to be observed annually, and, while welcoming events held by Member States, United Nations agencies, other international organizations and civil society at the international, regional and national levels to mark the World Day, invites all stakeholders to continue to observe the World Day in order to raise awareness of trafficking in persons and the situation of the victims of this crime and for the promotion and protection of their rights;

8. *Expresses solidarity with and compassion for* victims and survivors of trafficking in persons, and calls for the full respect of their human rights and the provision of appropriate victim-centred care and assistance, where applicable, including interpretation and sign language, where appropriate, to victims of trafficking, and services for their rehabilitation in cooperation with civil society and other relevant partners;

9. *Expresses support* for the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, reaffirms its request to the Secretary-General to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and invites Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Office for the purpose of providing assistance to Member States upon request;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to cooperate with relevant international organizations outside the United Nations system and to invite such organizations and interested Member States to participate, when appropriate, in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and to keep Member States informed of the schedule of and the progress made by the Coordination Group;

11. *Takes note* of the briefing for Member States by the Inter-Agency Coordination Group at its second and third meetings, held in virtual format on 15 December 2020 and on 15 November 2021, and of the Coordination Group plan of action, endorsed on 15 December 2020, as well as of the interactive multi-stakeholder hearing of 13 July 2021, which was part of the preparatory process for the high-level meeting on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons and of the high-level event on trafficking in persons and sustainable procurement held in virtual format on 27 September 2021;

12. *Welcomes* the second and third meetings of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, held in virtual format on 15 December 2020 and on 15 November 2021, which reinforced the vital role of inter-agency partnership in tackling trafficking in persons, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as coordinator of the Coordination Group, to continue to convene such meetings of the Coordination Group at the level of principals on a regular basis, and in this context takes note of the role of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as the first regional entity to co-chair the Coordination Group and also takes note of the engagement of the European Union Anti-Trafficking Coordinator with the Coordination Group, and welcomes the Organization of American States and the Council of the Baltic Sea States as the newest regional entities to join the Coordination Group;

13. *Invites* regional organizations, within their mandates, to join and consider co-chairing, along with a United Nations agency, the Inter-Agency Coordination Group to strengthen the exchange of expertise and regional experiences and thus enhance international cooperation in combating trafficking in persons and assisting the victims of this crime;

14. *Takes note* of the ongoing process undertaken by the Inter-Agency Coordination Group to conduct studies on emerging trends in the field of trafficking in persons, and to ensure that information-sharing among relevant agencies and between countries is done in accordance with international and national legal frameworks and takes into account privacy and confidentiality;

15. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in its capacity as coordinator of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, and other relevant agencies of the United Nations system to further strengthen their activities related to the implementation of relevant international instruments and the Global Plan of Action to drive greater progress in eliminating trafficking in persons, and invites Member States and other international and bilateral donors to provide voluntary contributions to the Office for these purposes, in accordance with the policies, rules and procedures of the United Nations;

16. *Calls upon* Member States to take into consideration new methods of recruiting those at risk of being subjected to trafficking in persons, such as the misuse of the Internet by traffickers, in particular for recruiting children, to take measures to develop targeted awareness-raising campaigns, including for law enforcement, front-line service providers and at-risk industries, to identify the signs of trafficking in persons and to develop specialized training for law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners;

17. *Invites* Member States to address the social, economic, cultural, political and other factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking in persons, such as poverty, unemployment, inequality, humanitarian emergencies, including armed conflicts and natural disasters, sexual violence, gender discrimination and social exclusion and marginalization, as well as a culture of tolerance towards violence against women, youth and children;

18. *Reaffirms* its commitment to international cooperation and multilateralism and its strong support for the central role of the United Nations system in the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including in addressing the issue of trafficking in persons in the context of the pandemic;

19. *Calls upon* Member States, international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, through partnerships, as appropriate, to increase and support prevention efforts in countries of origin, transit and destination by focusing domestically and globally on the demand and supply chains that foster all forms of trafficking and the goods and services produced as a result of trafficking in persons;

20. *Encourages* Member States to take legislative or other measures to prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration by strengthening capacities and international cooperation to investigate, prosecute and penalize trafficking in persons, discouraging demand that fosters exploitation leading to trafficking, and ending impunity of trafficking networks;

21. *Also encourages* Member States to cooperate on issues concerning trafficking in persons with the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, and in this regard takes note of the *Toolkit for Guidance in Designing and Evaluating Counter-Trafficking Programmes* of the Coordination Group, which might contribute to establishing a common framework for aligning activities and defining and assessing progress, as well as building a voluntary, robust and shared evidence base of effective programmes and practices to combat trafficking in persons;

22. *Further encourages* Member States to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as well as with other relevant special procedures, including the Special

Rapporteur of the Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the Special Rapporteur of the Council on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, and the Special Rapporteur of the Council on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences;

23. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their efforts to criminalize trafficking in persons in all its forms, including the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs, especially concerning children and persons with disabilities, and to condemn these practices and to investigate, prosecute and penalize traffickers and intermediaries while providing victim-centred protection and assistance to the victims of trafficking with full respect for their human rights, and invites Member States to continue to support those United Nations agencies and international organizations that are actively involved in victim protection;

24. *Also calls upon* Member States to take measures to support family reunification for victims of trafficking in persons, where safe and appropriate, especially when those are children, taking into consideration the best interests of the child;

25. *Notes* the second consultative meeting on strengthening partnerships with national rapporteurs and relevant mechanisms on trafficking in persons, held in Bangkok on 21 and 22 May 2014, co-hosted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the establishment of an informal network of such mechanisms located all over the world to address trafficking in persons in a consistent manner and to exchange information and best practices built on different national experiences, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts to collect information on national efforts to combat trafficking in persons, as well as on relevant national mechanisms, to make up-to-date information available to Member States, and invites Member States to host consultative meetings between relevant national mechanisms on trafficking in persons that continue transnational dialogue and the exchange of information on common challenges;

26. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in its capacity as fund manager of the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, to continue to encourage contributions by States and all other relevant stakeholders to the trust fund;

27. *Welcomes* the biennial publication of the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, looks forward to the next such report, to be produced by the Office in 2022, pursuant to the Global Plan of Action, and encourages Member States to provide to the Office evidence-based data on patterns, flows and forms of trafficking in persons, including for the purpose of the removal of organs;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, including recommendations on measures to bring greater urgency to and improve the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and on measures to increase the resilience and responsiveness of efforts to fight trafficking in persons in the context of COVID-19.

Draft resolution VII

Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions [46/152](#) of 18 December 1991, [60/1](#) of 16 September 2005, [67/1](#) of 19 September 2012, [69/193](#) and [69/196](#) of 18 December 2014, [70/178](#) and [70/182](#) of 17 December 2015, [71/209](#) of 19 December 2016, [72/196](#) of 19 December 2017, [73/186](#) of 17 December 2018, [74/177](#) of 18 December 2019 and [75/196](#) of 16 December 2020,

Reaffirming also its resolutions relating to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,¹ the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,² the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,³ the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,⁴ the United Nations Convention against Corruption⁵ and all the international conventions and protocols against terrorism,

Welcoming the results achieved by the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021,⁶ including the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁷

Underscoring the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and reaffirming its resolution [73/183](#) of 17 December 2018 on enhancing the role of the Commission in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which Member States were encouraged to raise awareness of the work of the Commission in the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Reaffirming its resolution [73/185](#) of 17 December 2018 on the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Expressing its grave concern about the negative effects of transnational organized crime on development, peace, stability and security and human rights, about the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime and about the growing degree of penetration of criminal organizations and their financial and economic resources into the economy,

Expressing concern at the involvement of organized criminal groups, as well as the substantial increase in the volume, rate of transnational occurrence and range of criminal offences related to trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals in some parts of the world, and the potential use of trafficking in precious metals,

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

² *Ibid.*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

⁶ See [A/CONF.234/16](#).

⁷ Resolution 76/..., annex.

stones and other minerals as a source of funding for organized crime, other relevant criminal activities and terrorism,

Deeply concerned about the growing links, in some cases, between forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, recognizing that countering transnational organized crime and terrorism is a common and shared responsibility, and in this respect recalling its resolution [74/175](#) of 18 December 2019 on technical assistance provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime related to counter-terrorism,

Convinced that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing and that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through crime prevention and criminal justice mechanisms, is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth and sustainable development and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and in this respect reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁸ which, inter alia, 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, and in this respect recalling its resolution [70/299](#) of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level,

Expressing concern about the unprecedented crisis caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, which is reversing hard-won sustainable development gains and may increase the risks of corruption, terrorism, transnational organized crime, fraud, financial crime, illegal trafficking, including trafficking in persons, and other criminal activities, welcoming the contributions of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant agencies to the sharing of good practices in crisis response and recovery in this context, and reaffirming its resolution ___ of ____ 2021 on strengthening criminal justice systems during and after the COVID-19 pandemic,

Emphasizing that transnational organized crime must be addressed with full respect for the principle of the sovereignty of States and in accordance with the rule of law as part of a comprehensive response to promote durable solutions through the promotion of human rights and more equitable socioeconomic conditions,

Encouraging Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive, evidence-based crime prevention policies, national and local strategies and action plans based on an understanding of the multiple factors that contribute to crime and to address such factors in a holistic manner, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and in this respect stressing that social development and the promotion of the rule of law, including the fostering of a culture of lawfulness while respecting cultural identities, in accordance with the Kyoto Declaration, should be integral elements of strategies to foster crime prevention and economic development in all States,

Recalling its resolution [74/172](#) of 18 December 2019 on Education for Justice and the rule of law in the context of sustainable development,

Concerned at the increasing rate of violence in urban areas, and recognizing the need for inclusive measures to address urban safety and the prevention of related crime and violence in an integrated, participatory and cross-sectoral manner,

Reaffirming its commitment and strong political will in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them, encouraging the effective participation and inclusion of all sectors of society,

⁸ Resolution [70/1](#).

thus creating the conditions needed to advance the wider United Nations agenda, and recognizing the responsibility of Member States to uphold human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular for those affected by crime and those who may be in contact with the criminal justice system, including vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and to prevent and counter hate crimes, as well as crimes motivated by intolerance or discrimination of any kind,

Taking note of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 25/2 of 27 May 2016 on promoting legal aid, including through a network of legal aid providers,⁹ in which the Commission encouraged Member States to adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures to ensure that effective legal aid, including for victims of crime, is provided consistent with their domestic legislation and in line with the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,¹⁰ and which also contributes to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Welcoming the efforts made by some Member States to establish a common documentation standard as a tool for facilitating both technical interoperability and accessibility of legal documentation,

Deeply concerned about the negative impact of corruption on development and on the enjoyment of human rights, and recognizing the universal importance of good governance, transparency, integrity and accountability, thus calling for a zero-tolerance approach to corruption and more effective measures to prevent and counter corruption in all its forms, including bribery, as well as measures to prevent the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of crime,

Bearing in mind its resolution 75/194 of 16 December 2020 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Welcoming the progress made with regard to the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and stressing the importance of full participation by States parties in the Mechanism and the effective implementation of the Convention in all its aspects by all States parties, and welcoming also resolution 10/1 of 16 October 2020 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,¹¹ by which the Conference launched the first review phase of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,

Welcoming also decision 8/1 of 20 December 2019 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to extend the duration of the second cycle of the Implementation Review Mechanism until June 2024,¹²

Taking note of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Development Programme *Manual on Corruption Surveys* and the development of methodological tools, standards and guidelines that can support countries in producing comparable and up-to-date statistics on corruption, including in the context of Sustainable Development Goal implementation, and welcoming in

⁹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 10 (E/2016/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

¹⁰ Resolution 67/187, annex.

¹¹ See *CTOC/COP/2020/10*, sect. I.A.

¹² See *CAC/COSP/2019/17*, sect. I.C.

this regard resolution 8/10 of 20 December 2019 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,¹³

Bearing in mind that, pursuant to chapter V of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the return of assets is one of the main objectives, an integral part and a fundamental principle of the Convention and that the States parties to the Convention shall afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance in that regard, and welcoming in this regard resolution 8/1 of 20 December 2019 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,¹⁴

Recognizing that, thanks to their nearly universal adherence and wide scope of application, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹⁵ and the United Nations Convention against Corruption offer fundamental legal bases for international cooperation to support the investigation and prosecution of crimes covered by those Conventions, including for extradition, mutual legal assistance and confiscation and asset recovery, and that they provide effective mechanisms that should be further implemented and utilized in practice,

Welcoming the political declaration entitled “Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation”, adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-second special session, held at United Nations Headquarters from 2 to 4 June 2021,¹⁶

Recognizing the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and the national levels, taking note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the Leaders’ Declaration of the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Riyadh on 21 and 22 November 2020, and urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage other States Members of the United Nations and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system,

Stressing the importance of strengthened international cooperation, based on the principles of shared responsibility and in accordance with international law, to effectively address the world drug problem, dismantle illicit networks and counter transnational organized crime, including money-laundering, illicit financial flows, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, trafficking in arms and other forms of organized crime, all of which threaten national security and undermine sustainable development and the rule of law, and stressing also in this respect the importance of law enforcement cooperation and exchange of information, in accordance with international law, as well as of designated central authorities and effective points of contact dedicated to facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including for extradition and mutual legal assistance requests, as well as the importance of the coordinating role of relevant regional networks,

Welcoming the high-level debate of the General Assembly held on 22 April 2021 on the theme “Urban safety, security and good governance: making crime prevention a priority for all”, and taking note of the summary of the discussion prepared by the President of the General Assembly and transmitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to all Member States,

¹³ Ibid., sect. I.B.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

¹⁶ Resolution [S-32/1](#), annex.

Noting the important contribution that public-private sector cooperation can make in efforts to prevent and combat criminal activities, such as transnational organized crime, corruption, cybercrime and terrorism, in particular in the tourism sector,

Reaffirming the commitments made by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,¹⁷ and its successive biennial reviews, in particular in its resolution [75/291](#) of 30 June 2021, in which it encouraged Member States and United Nations entities to strengthen and better coordinate their actions against terrorism and to prevent and combat violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, including through technical assistance provided to Member States upon their request, and highlighting in this respect the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, established through its resolution [71/291](#) of 15 June 2017, and that of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities on strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,

Highlighting the importance of its resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism and on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism adopted at its seventy-third and seventy-fourth sessions,

Expressing concern that terrorists may benefit from transnational organized crime in some regions, including from trafficking in arms, drugs and cultural property, as well as trafficking in persons and human organs, and from the illicit trade in natural resources, including oil, and in oil products, modular refineries and related material, precious metals, stones and other minerals, charcoal and wildlife, as well as from kidnapping for ransom and other crimes, including extortion, money-laundering and bank robbery, and condemning the destruction of cultural heritage perpetrated by terrorist groups in some countries,

Recalling its resolution [66/177](#) of 19 December 2011 on strengthening international cooperation in combating the harmful effects of illicit financial flows resulting from criminal activities, in which it urged States parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption to apply fully the provisions of those Conventions, in particular measures to prevent and combat money-laundering, including by criminalizing the laundering of proceeds of transnational organized crime, as well as measures to enhance national confiscation regimes and international cooperation, including in asset recovery, and recalling also its resolution [73/222](#) of 20 December 2018, in which, inter alia, it reiterated its deep concern about the impact of illicit financial flows, in particular those caused by tax evasion, corruption and transnational organized crime, on the economic, social and political stability and development of societies, and especially on developing countries,

Noting with concern the misuse of virtual assets and related payment methods by criminal individuals and transnational organized crime groups to raise, move and store funds, including the proceeds of crime, as well as the potential use of emerging payment methods, such as prepaid cards and mobile payments or virtual assets, by terrorists and terrorist groups,

Taking into consideration all resolutions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, in particular those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation, as well as to the technical assistance and advisory services of the United

¹⁷ Resolution [60/288](#).

Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance to Member States in improving systems for collecting and analysing data on crime prevention and criminal justice at all levels,

Noting the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations system task force on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking as threats to security and stability for the purpose of developing an effective and comprehensive approach to those crimes within the United Nations system, and reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in this regard, as reflected in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and technical assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice reform, data and information analysis, preventing and countering organized crime, corruption, piracy and transnational organized crime committed at sea, illicit financial flows, money-laundering, economic and financial crimes, including fraud, as well as tax and corporate crimes, cybercrime, criminal misuse of the Internet and other information and communications technologies as well as such misuse for terrorist purposes, trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora and other crimes that affect the environment, such as trafficking in timber, hazardous waste, precious metals, stones and other minerals, direct and indirect trade in oil and refined oil products with organized criminal and terrorist groups, counterfeiting in trademark goods, match-fixing, trafficking in cultural property and artefacts, kidnapping, smuggling of migrants, organ trafficking, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, drug trafficking and trafficking in falsified medical products, as well as terrorism, including progress in tackling the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, including those who are returning and relocating, and preventing chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism, as well as in the area of international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance and the international transfer of sentenced persons,

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of an integrated approach to programming and to technical assistance delivery at the global, regional and national levels, through the continuous linkages between the normative, operational and research components of its mandate, and based on continuing consultations and partnerships at the national, regional and global levels, particularly on its implementation, and focused on ensuring that the Office responds in a sustainable and coherent manner to the priorities of Member States,

Reiterating its concern regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and welcoming the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office,

Welcoming Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/3 of 26 May 2017 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes and into efforts to prevent and combat transnational organized crime,¹⁸

Reiterating its condemnation of all forms of violence against women and girls, noting with deep concern the increase in cases of violence against women and girls

¹⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 10 (E/2017/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

and in obstacles to their access to justice during the COVID-19 pandemic, and in this respect reaffirming its resolutions 65/228 of 21 December 2010, 71/170 of 19 December 2016, 72/149 of 19 December 2017 and 73/148 of 17 December 2018, recalling the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council addressing various aspects of violence against women and girls of all ages, and recalling also the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-seventh session, which addressed the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls,¹⁹

Expressing deep concern about the gender-related killing of women and girls, recalling its relevant resolutions,²⁰ recognizing the key role of law enforcement and the criminal justice system in preventing and responding to the gender-related killing of women and girls, including by ending impunity for such crimes, and recognizing the importance of collecting relevant data and developing preventive measures,

Noting the significance of the updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice²¹ as a way to assist countries in strengthening their national crime prevention and criminal justice capacities to respond to all forms of violence against women and girls,

Recalling its resolution 69/194 of 18 December 2014, by which it adopted the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, convinced of the importance of preventing youth crime, including through sports, supporting the rehabilitation of young offenders and their reintegration into society, protecting in particular child victims of all forms of violence, including those in contact with the law and witnesses, including efforts to prevent their revictimization, and addressing the needs of children of prisoners, stressing that such responses should take into account the human rights and best interests of children and young people, consistent with the obligations of the States parties under relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child²² and the Optional Protocols thereto,²³ and noting other relevant United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice, where appropriate,

Taking note with appreciation of the partnership between the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in promoting the importance of education as an effective tool for the prevention of crime and terrorism, under the Education for Justice initiative, and in this respect taking note with appreciation also of the launch of the joint publication entitled *Strengthening the Rule of Law through Education: A Guide for Policymakers*,

Emphasizing the relevance of international instruments and United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice related to the treatment of prisoners, in particular women and juveniles,

Recalling its resolution 70/146 of 17 December 2015, in which it reaffirmed that no one shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Stressing the importance of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials²⁴ and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law

¹⁹ Ibid., 2013, *Supplement No. 7 (E/2013/27)*, chap. I, sect. A.

²⁰ Resolutions 68/191 and 70/176.

²¹ Resolution 65/228, annex.

²² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

²³ Ibid., vols. 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531.

²⁴ Resolution 34/169, annex.

Enforcement Officials,²⁵ which are voluntary guidelines that emphasize, inter alia, efficient and human rights-based policing,

Recalling its resolution [65/229](#) of 21 December 2010 on the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), and in this regard encouraging the efforts of Member States to implement the Bangkok Rules,

Welcoming the adoption, by its resolution [70/175](#) of 17 December 2015, of the revision to the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), and reaffirming its resolution [72/193](#) of 19 December 2017, in which, inter alia, Member States were encouraged to endeavour to improve conditions of imprisonment and to promote the practical application of the Nelson Mandela Rules as the universally acknowledged and updated minimum standards for the treatment of prisoners, to use the Rules as a guide in the development of prison laws, policies and practices, to continue exchanging good practices and identifying challenges faced in the practical application of the Rules and to share their experiences in dealing with those challenges,

Welcoming also Economic and Social Council resolution [2017/19](#) of 6 July 2017 on promoting and encouraging the implementation of alternatives to imprisonment as part of comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, which constitutes a serious crime and a grave offence to human dignity and physical integrity, a violation or abuse of human rights and a challenge to sustainable development and requires the implementation of a comprehensive approach that includes measures to prevent such trafficking, to punish the traffickers and to identify and protect the victims of such trafficking, and a robust criminal justice response, and recalling in this respect the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,²⁶ and its resolutions [71/167](#) of 19 December 2016, [72/195](#) of 19 December 2017, [73/146](#) of 17 December 2018, [74/176](#) of 18 December 2019 and [75/158](#) of 16 December 2020,

Bearing in mind its resolution [73/189](#) of 17 December 2018 on strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs,

Reaffirming its resolution [72/1](#) of 27 September 2017, by which it adopted the political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

Underlining that Member States need to recognize that the crime of smuggling of migrants and the crime of trafficking in persons are distinct crimes and require separate and complementary legal, operational and policy responses, while recognizing that smuggled migrants might also become victims of trafficking in persons and therefore require appropriate protection and assistance, and recalling its resolutions [69/187](#) of 18 December 2014, [70/147](#) of 17 December 2015, [72/179](#) of 19 December 2017 and [74/148](#) of 18 December 2019, in which it called upon all Member States to protect and assist migrants, including migrant children and adolescents, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions [2014/23](#) of 16 July

²⁵ See *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.

²⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

2014 and [2015/23](#) of 21 July 2015 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 30/1 of 21 May 2021,²⁷

Reaffirming its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, in which it, inter alia, committed to taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour,

Recalling its resolution [71/1](#) of 19 September 2016, by which it adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which addresses the issue of large movements of refugees and migrants,

Stressing the importance for Member States to take legislative or other measures to prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration by strengthening capacities and international cooperation to investigate, prosecute and penalize trafficking in persons, discouraging demand that fosters exploitation leading to trafficking, and ending impunity of trafficking networks,

Welcoming the work of the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, established in accordance with the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted by its resolution [64/293](#) of 30 July 2010, as well as the important contribution of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, within its mandate, to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, and of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Concerned at the growing involvement of terrorist and organized criminal groups in all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and alarmed by the destruction of cultural heritage perpetrated by terrorist groups, which is linked to trafficking in cultural property in some countries and to financing of terrorist activities,

Recognizing the indispensable role of crime prevention and criminal justice responses in combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences in a comprehensive and effective manner, and underlining the importance of the technical assistance provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime aimed at supporting the implementation of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences²⁸ and at facilitating operational cooperation against all forms of trafficking in cultural property, including through the practical assistance tool developed to that end,

Welcoming resolution 27/5 of 18 May 2018 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,²⁹ which focused on the need to strengthen international cooperation to prevent and counter trafficking in cultural property, including through judicial cooperation and mutual legal assistance, and noting the efforts of Member States to implement General Assembly resolutions [68/186](#) of 18 December 2013, [69/196](#), and [73/130](#) of 13 December 2018,

Affirming that the destruction of cultural heritage, which is representative of the diversity of human culture, erases the collective memories of a nation, destabilizes communities and threatens their cultural identity, and emphasizing the importance of cultural diversity and pluralism as well as freedom of religion and belief for achieving

²⁷ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2021, Supplement No. 10 (E/2021/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

²⁸ Resolution [69/196](#), annex.

²⁹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 10 (E/2018/30)*, chap. I, sect. C.

peace, stability, reconciliation and social cohesion, and recalling in this respect its resolution [73/130](#),

Reaffirming the intrinsic value of biological diversity and its various contributions to sustainable development and human well-being, and recognizing that wild fauna and flora in their many beautiful and varied forms are an irreplaceable part of the natural systems of the Earth which must be protected for this generation and the generations to come,

Taking note of the *World Wildlife Crime Report: Trafficking in Protected Species*, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in 2020,

Emphasizing that the protection of wildlife must be part of a comprehensive approach to achieving poverty eradication, food security, sustainable development, including the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, economic growth, social well-being and sustainable livelihoods,

Expressing deep concern about crimes that affect the environment, including illicit trafficking in endangered and, where applicable, protected species of wild fauna and flora, in hazardous waste and other wastes, illegal mining and crimes in the fisheries sector, and emphasizing the need to combat such crimes by strengthening coordinated action to eliminate, prevent and combat corruption and disrupt illicit networks and also by coordinating international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts,

Recognizing, in this respect, the legal framework provided by and the important role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora³⁰ as the primary mechanism for regulating international trade in species of wild fauna and flora listed in its appendices,

Recalling the adoption of its resolutions [71/326](#) of 11 September 2017, [73/343](#) of 16 September 2019 and [75/311](#) of 23 July 2021 on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, and welcoming Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 28/3 of 24 May 2019³¹ and resolution 8/12 of 20 December 2019 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,³²

Concerned at the growing trend of cybercrime and the misuse of information and communications technologies in multiple forms of crime, and recalling its resolutions [73/187](#) of 17 December 2018, [74/173](#) of 18 December 2019, [74/247](#) of 27 December 2019 and [75/282](#) of 26 May 2021, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions [2019/19](#) and [2019/20](#) of 23 July 2019,

Stressing the need to enhance coordination and cooperation among Member States in combating cybercrime, including by providing technical assistance to developing countries, upon request, to improve national legislation and enhance the capacity of national authorities to deal with cybercrime in all its forms, including its prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution, emphasizing in this context the role that the United Nations, in particular the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, plays, and reaffirming the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,

Deeply concerned about the increasing harm caused by, and the negative impact of, illicitly manufactured and trafficked firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and about the links of such trafficking with other forms of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking, as well as terrorism, and noting that

³⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

³¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 10 (E/2019/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

³² See [CAC/COSP/2019/17](#), sect. I.B.

reducing the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunitions is one of the major components of the efforts to reduce the power of transnational organized criminal groups and the violence that accompanies their activities,

Noting international efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms, in particular in small arms and light weapons, as demonstrated by the adoption in 2001 of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,³³ the entry into force in 2005 of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,³⁴ and the entry into force in 2014 of the Arms Trade Treaty,³⁵ and noting also the common themes and complementary character of these instruments,

Welcoming the 2019 Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted during the ministerial segment of the sixty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,³⁶ in which Member States committed to accelerating, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility, the full implementation of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,³⁷ the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action³⁸ and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016,³⁹ aimed at achieving all commitments, operational recommendations and aspirational goals set out therein,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to resolution [75/196](#);⁴⁰

2. *Reaffirms* its resolution [70/1](#), entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which, inter alia, 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;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States, when appropriate, to take into consideration the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted at the high-level segment of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021, when formulating legislation and policy directives, and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon

³³ *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15)*, chap. IV, para. 24.

³⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

³⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 3013, No. 52373.

³⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 8 (E/2019/28)*, chap. I, sect. B.

³⁷ *Ibid.*, 2009, *Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

³⁸ *Ibid.*, 2014, *Supplement No. 8 (E/2014/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

³⁹ Resolution [S-30/1](#), annex.

⁴⁰ [A/76/122](#).

request, to Member States, including through its Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration and the Education for Justice initiative;

4. *Encourages* Member States to promote the integrity, honesty and responsibility of criminal justice practitioners through specialized and appropriate training and the application of codes or standards of conduct, and in this context notes the work of the Global Judicial Integrity Network aimed at strengthening judicial integrity;

5. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and urges States parties to those conventions and protocols to make efforts towards their effective implementation, particularly with regard to preventing and combating transnational organized crime, including cybercrime;

6. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto represent the most important tools of the international community for fighting transnational organized crime, including cybercrime, notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 190, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating transnational organized crime, and recalls in this respect resolution 10/4 of 16 October 2020 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,⁴¹ in which the Conference emphasized the continued relevance of the Convention, including in countering new, emerging and evolving forms of transnational organized crime;

7. *Recognizes* that technical assistance and economic development are fundamental to ensuring the effective implementation of the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, and recalls in this regard article 30 of the Convention;

8. *Welcomes* the progress made by States parties in their participation in the review process of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, in accordance with resolution 10/1 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted at its tenth session, held in Vienna from 12 to 16 October 2020, and urges States parties to continue to actively participate in and support the review process;

9. *Encourages* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to submit case law, legislation and other relevant responses to the knowledge management portal known as Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime;

10. *Welcomes* the resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth, ninth and tenth sessions, held in Vienna from 17 to 21 October 2016, from 15 to 19 October 2018 and from 12 to 16 October 2020, respectively, to promote greater use of the Convention by central authorities in extradition and mutual legal assistance and to enhance the effectiveness of these authorities and to strengthen, as appropriate, the implementation of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and

⁴¹ See [CTOC/COP/2020/10](#), sect. I.A.

Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

11. *Also welcomes* the thirty-second special session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters from 2 to 4 June 2021, at which the Assembly adopted a political declaration entitled “Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation”;

12. *Urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to continue to provide full support to the review mechanism adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, notes the progress made under the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention, and further notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 188, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating corruption and related crimes;

13. *Also urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to increase their efforts and to take measures to prevent and counter corruption, with the necessary focus on, among others, acts of corruption that involve vast quantities of assets, without undermining their commitment to preventing and countering corruption at all levels and in all forms, and calls upon States parties to the Convention to take measures to ensure that legal and natural persons are held accountable for corruption offences, including when they involve bribery and vast quantities of assets, in accordance with the Convention;

14. *Takes note* of the creation of the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities under the auspices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and encourages States to participate in and make best use of this network, as appropriate;

15. *Welcomes* the progress achieved by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in the implementation of their respective mandates, and calls upon States parties to give full effect to the resolutions adopted by those bodies, including providing information regarding compliance with the treaties;

16. *Encourages* Member States, in accordance with their domestic law, to strengthen the capacity of their respective criminal justice systems to investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of crime, while supporting an accessible, effective, fair, humane, transparent and accountable criminal justice system and protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of defendants, as well as the rights and legitimate interests of victims and witnesses, and to adopt and reinforce measures to ensure access to effective legal aid in criminal justice systems, and in this context takes note of the establishment of the Global Judicial Integrity Network in April 2018;

17. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, including, inter alia, in the field of international cooperation in criminal matters, to strengthen the rule of law, also taking into account the work undertaken by other United Nations entities, within existing mandates, as well as regional and bilateral efforts, and to continue to ensure coordination and coherence, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group;

18. *Calls for* greater coordination and coherence among United Nations entities and with stakeholders, including donors, host countries and recipients of capacity-building, in countering transnational organized crime;

19. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme with sufficient, stable and predictable funding for the full implementation of its mandates;

20. *Encourages* all States to have national and local action plans for crime prevention in order to take into account, in a comprehensive, integrated and participatory manner, inter alia, factors that place certain populations and places at higher risk of victimization and/or of offending, and to ensure that such plans are based on the best available evidence and good practices, and stresses that crime prevention should be considered an integral element of strategies to foster social and economic development in all States, in accordance with the commitments contained in General Assembly resolutions 70/1 and 70/299;

21. *Recommends* that Member States adopt multisectoral crime prevention policies and programmes for youth and increase their meaningful and inclusive participation therein, including through sport and education, taking into consideration their varying needs, and safeguard their well-being, recognizing that youth may face specific challenges and risk factors that make them particularly vulnerable to crime, all forms of violence, terrorism and victimization, and in this respect recalls its resolution __ of __ 2021, entitled “Integrating sport into youth crime prevention and criminal justice strategies”;

22. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and with the involvement of relevant stakeholders, to hold, within existing resources and during the seventy-sixth session, a high-level debate on the theme “Enhancing youth mainstreaming in crime prevention policies” and to prepare a summary of the discussion for transmission to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to all Member States;

23. *Encourages* States to continue to build on the results of important forums such as the high-level debate of the General Assembly held on 22 April 2021 on the theme “Urban safety, security and good governance: making crime prevention a priority for all”, and urges the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to develop comprehensive efforts in its actions aimed at preventing crime, especially with a view to obtaining detailed information that can lead to an improved understanding of the transnational aspects of urban safety and security, and improve the efforts of States to curb criminal actions in this field;

24. *Urges* Member States, in cooperation with the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, to develop national, subregional, regional and international strategies, with the support of relevant international organizations, as appropriate, and other necessary measures, including the establishment, in accordance with domestic legislation, of designated central and competent authorities and effective points of contact dedicated to facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including for extradition and mutual legal assistance requests, in order to effectively address transnational organized crime; to strengthen all forms of cooperation to enable the return of illicitly acquired assets in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption for asset recovery, in particular chapter V, with the cooperation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate; and to inform accordingly the Office about existing or updated contact details of such authorities and points of contact to facilitate international cooperation as appropriate;

25. *Encourages* Member States to study the implementation of a common documentation standard, including within the United Nations system and in cooperation with relevant international institutions;

26. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices in respect of all forms of organized crime, including piracy and transnational organized crime committed at sea, cybercrime, criminal misuse of the Internet and other information and communications technologies as well as such misuse for terrorist purposes, the misuse of new information technologies to abuse and exploit children, trafficking in cultural property and artefacts, illicit financial flows, money-laundering, economic and financial crimes, including fraud, as well as tax and corporate crimes, match-fixing, counterfeiting in trademark goods, illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora and other crimes that affect the environment, such as trafficking in timber, hazardous waste, precious metals, stones and other minerals, drug trafficking, kidnapping, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, organ trafficking, smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, direct and indirect trade in oil and refined oil products with organized criminal and terrorist groups, as well as corruption and terrorism;

27. *Encourages* Member States to collect relevant information and to further identify, analyse and counter any existing, growing or potential links, in some cases, between transnational organized crime, the illicit access to and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, illicit drug-related activities, money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, in order to enhance criminal justice responses to those crimes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its relevant mandates, to support, upon request, the efforts of Member States in that regard;

28. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other institutions, on the development of a methodology to produce estimates of the total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows, and encourages the Office, within its relevant mandates and in cooperation with Member States, to continue its work on studying illicit financial flows related to criminal activities, in line with this methodology;

29. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen cooperation at the international, regional, subregional and bilateral levels to counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, including those who are returning and relocating, including through enhanced operational and timely information-sharing, logistical support, as appropriate, and capacity-building activities, such as those provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to share and adopt best practices to identify foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent the travel of foreign terrorist fighters from, into or through Member States, to prevent the financing, mobilization, recruitment and organization of foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent and counter violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, to enhance efforts to implement prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration strategies, taking into account gender and age dimensions, and to ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in the supporting of terrorist acts is brought to justice, in compliance with obligations under international law, as well as applicable domestic law, and requests the Office to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, in this regard in cooperation and coordination with the

Office of Counter-Terrorism and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities;

30. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further enhance technical assistance, upon request, for building the capacity of Member States to become party to and implement the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, including through targeted programmes and the training of relevant criminal justice and law enforcement officials, upon request, and the development of technical tools and publications, within its mandate, and in this respect takes note with appreciation of the *Guidance Manual for Member States on Terrorist Financing Risk Assessments*, published by the Office;

31. *Calls upon* Member States to address the threat posed by radicalization to terrorism in prisons, and calls upon the United Nations, especially the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue to support Member States in this regard in cooperation and coordination with the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities;

32. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and regional organizations that have transnational organized crime mandates, as appropriate, in order to share best practices, foster cooperation and take advantage of their unique and comparative advantage;

33. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its country and regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impacts in the fight against transnational organized crime in all its forms, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in those areas;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to support, in an effective manner, efforts towards the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the conferences of the parties to the conventions, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as well as the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, in accordance with its mandate, and requests the Secretariat to continue to provide support to the Commissions within their respective mandates, enabling them to actively contribute, as appropriate, to the global follow-up and the thematic review of progress made by Member States in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals as set forth in resolutions [70/299](#), and [72/305](#) of 23 July 2018;

35. *Urges* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its research, operational and technical cooperation activities;

36. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization,

and requests the Secretary-General, also considering the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office, to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

37. *Invites* States and other interested parties to make further voluntary contributions to the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and to the United Nations voluntary trust fund on contemporary forms of slavery;

38. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify national and international efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, religious intolerance, xenophobia and gender-related discrimination by, inter alia, raising awareness, developing educational materials and programmes and considering, where appropriate, drafting and enforcing legislation against discrimination;

39. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and in that regard expresses its concern about the increase in the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from crimes against migrants, especially women and children, without regard for dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international law;

40. *Calls upon* Member States to implement, when appropriate, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),⁴² bearing in mind their spirit and purpose, and to intensify their efforts to address the challenge of prison overcrowding through appropriate criminal justice reforms, which should include, where appropriate, a review of penal policies and practical measures to reduce pretrial detention, to enhance the use of non-custodial sanctions and measures and to improve access to legal aid to the extent possible, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, in this respect;

41. *Reaffirms* its resolution __ of ____ 2021 on reducing reoffending through rehabilitation and reintegration, and encourages Member States to promote a rehabilitative environment in correctional facilities and multi-stakeholder partnerships to reduce reoffending by fostering inter-agency coordination among relevant government authorities;

42. *Emphasizes* the need for all Member States to promote, where appropriate, cooperation on the transfer of sentenced persons to serve the rest of their sentences in their own countries, conclude bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements in this regard as necessary, taking into consideration the rights of sentenced persons and issues relating to consent, rehabilitation and reintegration, as appropriate, and raise awareness among these prisoners about the availability of such measures;

43. *Invites* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into their criminal justice systems, including by the use of non-custodial measures for women, when appropriate, and by improving the treatment of women prisoners, taking into consideration the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),⁴³ and by developing and implementing national strategies and plans to promote the full protection of women and girls from all acts of violence and to strengthen the crime

⁴² Resolution 70/175, annex.

⁴³ Resolution 65/229, annex.

prevention and criminal justice response to the gender-related killing of women and girls, in particular by taking measures to support the practical capacity of Member States to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of such crime, and welcomes in this respect the practical tools recommended by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on gender-related killing of women and girls at its meeting held in Bangkok from 11 to 13 November 2014;⁴⁴

44. *Also invites* Member States to integrate child- and youth-related issues into their criminal justice reform efforts, recognizing the importance of protecting children from all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse, consistent with the obligations of parties under relevant international instruments, and to develop comprehensive child-sensitive justice policies focused on the best interests of the child, consistent with the principle that the deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time;

45. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in developing their abilities and strengthening their capacity to prevent and combat kidnapping, and requests the Office to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, with a view to fostering international cooperation, in particular mutual legal assistance, aimed at countering effectively this growing serious crime;

46. *Calls upon* Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to, and for States parties to effectively implement, the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,⁴⁵ to reinforce international cooperation for preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants and for the prosecution of smugglers, in accordance, as appropriate, with article 6 of the Protocol and with national laws and legislation, while effectively protecting the rights and respecting the dignity of smuggled migrants, consistent with the principles of non-discrimination and other applicable obligations under relevant international law, taking into account the special needs of women, children, especially when unaccompanied, and persons with disabilities and older persons, and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its technical assistance to Member States in accordance with the Protocol;

47. *Takes note* of the launch of the first United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime *Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants*, encourages Member States to promote the reliable collection of relevant data and research, at the national and, as appropriate, the regional and international levels, invites the Office to systematically collect data and information from Member States on migrant smuggling routes, the *modi operandi* of migrant smugglers and the role of transnational organized crime, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for this purpose;

48. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that, in investigating and prosecuting trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, the concurrent undertaking of financial investigations is a standard practice, with a view to tracing, freezing and confiscating proceeds acquired through those crimes, and to consider trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants to be predicate offences of money-laundering;

49. *Takes note* of the launch by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2020*, recognizes that the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons is a useful resource facilitating information-sharing

⁴⁴ See [E/CN.15/2015/16](#).

⁴⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

on the nature, scope and trends of trafficking in persons, as well as modi operandi of traffickers, and encourages Member States to submit to the Office information on patterns, forms and flows of trafficking in persons for purposes of compiling future global reports;

50. *Emphasizes* the importance of preventing and combating all forms of trafficking in persons, and in this regard expresses its concern about the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from such crimes, including for the purpose of organ removal, and calls upon Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to, and for States parties, in accordance with their obligations, to fully and effectively implement the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, as well as to strengthen national efforts to combat all forms of trafficking in persons and to protect and assist the victims of trafficking in accordance with all relevant legal obligations and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its technical assistance to Member States in accordance with the Protocol;

51. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism, including the phenomenon of travelling, returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters, especially with regard to extradition and mutual legal assistance, and its financial sources, through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in close consultation and cooperation with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) and its Executive Directorate, as well as to contribute to the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, established in accordance with resolution [71/291](#), and of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, and invites Member States to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with appropriate resources for its mandate;

52. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, within its mandate, technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism through the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, in accordance with United Nations-related instruments and international standards, including, where applicable, standards and relevant initiatives of regional, interregional and multilateral organizations and intergovernmental bodies against money-laundering, inter alia and as appropriate, the Financial Action Task Force, in accordance with national legislation;

53. *Encourages* Member States to enhance the effectiveness of countering criminal threats to the tourism sector, including terrorist threats, through, when appropriate, the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international organizations, in cooperation with the World Tourism Organization and the private sector;

54. *Affirms* that attacks intentionally directed against buildings dedicated to religion, education, art, science or charitable purposes, or historic monuments, or hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, may amount to war crimes, stresses the importance of holding accountable perpetrators of attacks intentionally directed against the above-mentioned buildings, provided that they are not military objectives, and calls upon all States to take appropriate action to this end within their jurisdiction in accordance with applicable international law;

55. *Urges* States parties to make effective use of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime for broad cooperation in preventing and combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, including money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, especially in returning such confiscated proceeds of crime or property to their legitimate owners, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

56. *Encourages* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to promptly notify countries of origin when objects that may be cultural property removed from their territory are identified, and to exchange information and statistical data on all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and reaffirms in this regard the importance of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/196;

57. *Urges* Member States to introduce effective national and international measures to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, including publicizing legislation, international guidelines and related technical background documents, and offering special training for police, customs and border services, and invites Member States to make trafficking in cultural property and related offences, including stealing from and looting of archaeological and other cultural sites, a serious crime, as defined in article 2 (b) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

58. *Also urges* Member States to take decisive steps at the national level to prevent, combat and eradicate the illegal trade in wildlife, on both the supply and demand sides, including by strengthening the legislation necessary for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of such illegal trade, as well as by strengthening enforcement and criminal justice responses, in accordance with national legislation and international law, acknowledging that the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime can provide valuable technical assistance in this regard;

59. *Calls upon* Member States to make illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora and other crimes that affect the environment, such as trafficking in timber, hazardous waste and other wastes, precious metals, stones and other minerals, involving organized criminal groups a serious crime in accordance with their national legislation and with article 2 (b) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

60. *Also calls upon* Member States to take appropriate and effective measures to prevent and combat trafficking in timber, hazardous waste and other wastes, precious metals, stones and other minerals by organized criminal groups, including, where appropriate, the adoption and effective implementation of the necessary legislation for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of illicit trafficking in timber, hazardous waste and other wastes, precious metals, stones and other minerals;

61. *Reaffirms* its resolution __ of ____ 2021 on preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources and within its mandate, to provide technical assistance and capacity-building to Member States, upon request, for the purposes of supporting their efforts to effectively prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment, as well as corruption and money-laundering related to such crimes;

62. *Encourages* Member States to continue to support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing targeted technical assistance, within its existing mandate, to enhance the capacity of affected States, upon their request, to

combat piracy and other forms of crime committed at sea, including by assisting Member States in creating an effective law enforcement response and strengthening their judicial capacity;

63. *Notes with appreciation* the holding of the seventh meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime and the responses to cybercrime by Member States, the international community and the private sector, and calls upon Member States to take actions to create a secure and resilient cyberenvironment, to prevent and counter effectively criminal activities carried out over the Internet, paying particular attention to identity fraud-related offences, recruitment for the purpose of trafficking in persons and protecting children from online exploitation and abuse, to strengthen law enforcement cooperation at the national and international levels, including with the aim of identifying and protecting victims by, inter alia, removing child pornography and other child sexual abuse material from the Internet, to enhance the security of computer networks and protect the integrity of relevant infrastructure, and to endeavour to provide long-term technical assistance and capacity-building to strengthen the ability of national authorities to deal with cybercrime, including the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of such crime in all its forms;

64. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts in combating cybercrime and all forms of criminal misuse of information and communications technologies and to enhance international cooperation involving electronic evidence in this regard;

65. *Notes* the establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes, encourages Member States to actively participate in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, and further encourages the participation of relevant stakeholders, in line with the modalities established under its resolution [75/282](#) of 26 May 2021;

66. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to assist Member States, upon request, in combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and to support them in their efforts to address the links with other forms of transnational organized crime, through, inter alia, legislative assistance, technical support, improved data collection and analysis and strengthened national statistical systems, and in this respect invites Member States to provide the Office with relevant information and suitably disaggregated data;

67. *Encourages* Member States to effectively implement resolution 10/2 of 16 October 2020 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, entitled “Strengthening international cooperation against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition”,⁴⁶

68. *Urges* Member States to exchange good practices and experiences of practitioners who are involved in combating illicit trafficking in firearms and to consider the use of available tools, including marking and record-keeping, to facilitate the tracing of firearms and, where possible, their parts and components and ammunition, in order to enhance criminal investigations into illicit trafficking in firearms;

69. *Urges* States parties to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition that import and export parts and components of firearms to reinforce their control measures in

⁴⁶ See [CTOC/COP/2020/10](#), sect. I.A.

line with the Protocol and other relevant international legal instruments to which they are party, with a view to preventing and reducing the risks of their diversion, illicit manufacturing and trafficking, and takes note of the first United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime *Global Study on Firearms Trafficking*;

70. *Notes* the results of the eighth meeting of the Working Group on Firearms, held in Vienna from 10 to 12 May 2021, and invites States parties to take measures, as appropriate and consistent with their domestic laws, to implement the recommendations and discussion points resulting from the Working Group meetings, in order to contribute to strengthening international cooperation against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms;

71. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify all efforts to address the world drug problem, based upon the principle of common and shared responsibility and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, including through more effective bilateral, regional and international cooperation among judicial and law enforcement authorities, in accordance with international law, to counter the involvement of organized criminal groups in illicit drug production and trafficking and related criminal activities and to take steps to reduce the violence that accompanies drug trafficking;

72. *Recommends* that Member States, as appropriate to their national contexts, adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on baseline assessments, regular data collection and analysis, and focusing on all sectors of and linkages within the justice system, and develop 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;

73. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to gradually adopt the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and to strengthen national statistical systems of criminal justice, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue to strengthen the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable, timely and comparable data and information, including, as appropriate, real time data, and data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant criteria, and strongly encourages Member States to share such data and information with the Office;

74. *Takes note* of the global studies on the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms and intentional homicide, including on the gender-related killing of women and girls, that have been produced by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and thus provide data-driven analyses in support of policy development at the national and international levels, and requests the Office to continue to develop, in close cooperation with Member States, technical and methodological tools and trend analyses and studies to enhance knowledge of crime trends and support Member States in designing appropriate responses in specific areas of crime, in particular in their transnational dimension and in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account the need to make the best possible use of existing resources;

75. *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, including e-learning training materials, developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

76. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration and close consultation with Member States and within existing resources, to continue to support the enhancement of capacity and skills in the field of forensic sciences, including the setting of standards, and the development of technical assistance material for training, such as manuals, compilations of useful practices and guidelines and scientific and forensic reference material, for law enforcement officials and prosecution authorities, and to promote and facilitate the establishment and sustainability of regional networks of forensic science providers in order to enhance their expertise and capacity to prevent and combat transnational organized crime;

77. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses.

Annex**Virtual informal meeting to hear introductory statements and hold an interactive dialogue on agenda items 108, 109 and 110**

At the 5th virtual informal meeting of the Committee, held in the afternoon of 11 October 2021, the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime made an introductory statement and responded to the questions posed and the comments made by the representatives of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nigeria, the European Union, Singapore (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), the Syrian Arab Republic, Mexico, Belarus, the United States of America, China, Qatar, Colombia and Algeria.

The representative of Morocco made a statement.
