



**United Nations**

# **Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**

**Report on the reconvened  
thirtieth session  
(8 to 10 December 2021)**

**Economic and Social Council  
Official Records, 2021  
Supplement No. 10A**



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United Nations • New York, 2021

*Note*

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

[17 December 2021]

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### *Executive summary*

The present summary has been prepared pursuant to the annex to General Assembly resolution 68/1, entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council”, and the annex to resolution 72/305, entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/1 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council”, in which it is stated that the subsidiary bodies of the Council should, inter alia, include in their reports an executive summary.

During its reconvened thirtieth session, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held a thematic discussion on effective measures to prevent and counter the smuggling of migrants, while protecting the rights of smuggled migrants, particularly women and children, and those of unaccompanied migrant children, which had been postponed from its regular session in May.

The Commission also considered strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions and the follow-up to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fifteenth Congress. The Commission further considered its contributions to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 72/305, including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Commission also considered the provisional agenda for its thirty-first session.

The Commission recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions: (a) “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”; (b) “Organization of the thematic discussions at future sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”; and (c) “Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened thirtieth session”. The Commission also adopted the following resolutions: “Budget for the biennium 2022–2023 for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund” and “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”.





## Chapter I

### **Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention**

#### **A. Draft decisions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council**

1. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

##### **Draft decision I**

#### **Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**

The Economic and Social Council, recalling its decision 2021/218 of 24 February 2021, entitled “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”, in which it decided to renew the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime until the reconvened sessions of the Commissions to be held in December 2021, at which time the Commissions should carry out a thorough review of the functioning of the working group and consider the extension of its mandate beyond 2021:

(a) Reaffirms the efficiency of the working group as the forum for dialogue among Member States and between Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office;

(b) Also reaffirms the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of crime prevention and criminal justice and as the governing body of the crime programme of the Office;

(c) Expresses once again its continued concern about the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and also expresses its awareness of the urgent need to continue to address that situation in a pragmatic, results-oriented, efficient and cooperative manner;

(d) Reaffirms Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 of 20 March 2009 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3 of 24 April 2009, as well as Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 54/10 of 25 March 2011, 54/17 of 13 December 2011, 56/11 of 15 March 2013, 58/1 of 17 March 2015 and 60/3 of 17 March 2017, and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 20/1 of 13 April 2011, 20/9 of 13 December 2011, 22/2 of 26 April 2013, 24/1 of 22 May 2015 and 26/1 of 26 May 2017, and decides to renew the mandate of the working group for an unlimited period of time, with a possibility of reviewing its mandate and working methods upon the request of Member States;

(e) Decides that the working group will be led by a Bureau comprising one Chair, one First Vice-Chair and three Vice-Chairs, representing the five regional groups, that the offices will rotate annually on the basis of regional distribution, and that members of the Bureau will be jointly nominated by the Bureaux of the Commission on Narcotic

Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and endorsed at the plenary sessions of the two Commissions;<sup>1</sup>

(f) Also decides that the dates of meetings<sup>2</sup> should be determined by the Bureau of the working group, in consultation with the Secretariat, and that the working group will continue to hold a formal meeting at least once a year that will include a dialogue with the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(g) Further decides that the items under consideration by the working group will be grouped into two parts, namely, an operational part, covering governance and financial matters, and a programmatic part, under which updates will be provided on programme and project implementation stemming from the mandates of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(h) Decides that the operational part will include:

(i) Matters related to the budget and financial situation, human resources and evaluation and oversight;

(ii) Discussions on the implementation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Strategy 2021–2025, other strategies of the Office and other possible subsequent strategic documents, on the contributions of the Office to supporting Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>3</sup> and its contributions to United Nations reforms, on the implementation of mandates contained in the budget-related resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and on the organizational arrangements for the intergovernmental meetings;

(i) Also decides that the programmatic part will cover the mandated areas of work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including:

(i) Work related to the five thematic areas, namely, addressing and countering the world drug problem, preventing and countering organized crime, preventing and countering corruption and economic crime, preventing and countering terrorism, and crime prevention and criminal justice, including the implementation of relevant thematic resolutions;

(ii) The regional strategic visions of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as field-based programmes;

(iii) Cross-cutting and other issues, such as, among others, research, gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of youth;

(j) Reiterates the request that the relevant documentation be provided to the working group not later than 10 working days before a meeting;

(k) Also reiterates the importance of the development by Member States of an indicative annual workplan, taking into account inputs from the Secretariat, in order to guide the work of the working group;

(l) Calls upon Member States to provide extrabudgetary resources to support the organization and conduct of, and follow-up to, the meetings of the working group, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

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<sup>1</sup> The chairing arrangements will provide that the First Vice-Chair of the working group will be expected at the end of the calendar year to assume the office of Chair of the working group for the forthcoming year, to foster continuity.

<sup>2</sup> Meetings will be organized in a format that facilitates participation by field offices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

## **Draft decision II**

### **Organization of the thematic discussions at future sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Decides that the following will be the themes for the thematic discussions to be held during the thirty-first, thirty-second, thirty-third and thirty-fourth sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, respectively:

- (i) Strengthening the use of digital evidence in criminal justice and countering cybercrime, including the abuse and exploitation of minors in illegal activities with the use of the Internet;
- (ii) Enhancing the functioning of the criminal justice system to ensure access to justice and to realize a safe and secure society;
- (iii) Promoting international cooperation and technical assistance to prevent and address organized crime, corruption, terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and other forms of crime, including in the areas of extradition, mutual legal assistance and asset recovery;
- (iv) Addressing new, emerging and evolving forms of crime, including crimes that affect the environment, smuggling of commercial goods and trafficking in cultural property and other crimes targeting cultural property;

(b) Encourages the Commission to conduct those thematic discussions within the framework of the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021,<sup>4</sup> thereby contributing to the consideration of the annual themes<sup>5</sup> of the Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

## **Draft decision III**

### **Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened thirtieth session**

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened thirtieth session.

## **B. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council**

2. The attention of the Economic and Social Council is drawn to the following resolutions, adopted by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its reconvened thirtieth session, and to the action taken pursuant to General Assembly resolution [61/252](#), in which the Assembly authorized the Commission to approve the programme budget for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund:

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<sup>4</sup> A/CONF.234/16, chapter I, resolution 1.

<sup>5</sup> The annual themes for 2022 and 2023 are, respectively, “Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” and “Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels”.

**Resolution 30/2**

**Budget for the biennium 2022–2023 for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund**

*The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,*

*Exercising the administrative and financial functions entrusted to it by the General Assembly in its resolution [61/252](#) of 22 December 2006,*

*Having considered the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the proposed budget for the biennium 2022–2023 for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund<sup>6</sup> and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,<sup>7</sup>*

*Noting with concern the financial challenges facing the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime due to the shortfall in general-purpose funding and underlying funding trends affecting the Office's ability to effectively uphold core programmatic functions, such as normative work and research,*

*Noting with concern also the financial challenges faced by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with regard to the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building to interested Member States,*

1. *Notes the alignment of the proposed budget with the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the contribution made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>8</sup> by assisting Member States, upon request, in their efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda and contributing to the reform of the United Nations development system and to other relevant transformation agendas agreed by Member States;*

2. *Also notes that the budget is based on, inter alia, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Strategy 2021–2025 and the strategy detailed under the annual programme plan for 2022;<sup>9</sup>*

3. *Further notes that the budget is harmonized with sections 16 and 29F of the proposed programme budget of the United Nations for 2022;<sup>10</sup>*

4. *Notes that the budget focuses on general-purpose funds and also includes special-purpose funds and programme support cost income earned on special-purpose contributions, as well as regular budget resources;*

5. *Also notes that the general-purpose resources of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund are presented as a single budget and that general-purpose expenditure will be apportioned between the two funds in accordance with the income that each generates;*

6. *Further notes that the budget clearly distinguishes between general-purpose funds and programme support cost funds and that it harmonizes the use and management of those two fund categories across the two funds of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;*

7. *Notes that the programme support cost resources of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund are presented as a single budget and that programme support*

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<sup>6</sup> See [E/CN.7/2021/11-E/CN.15/2021/18](#).

<sup>7</sup> See [E/CN.7/2021/13-E/CN.15/2021/20](#).

<sup>8</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>9</sup> See [A/76/6 \(Sect. 16\)](#).

<sup>10</sup> [A/76/6 \(Sect. 16\)](#) and [A/76/6 \(Sect. 29F\)](#).

cost expenditure will be apportioned between the two funds in accordance with the income that each generates;

8. *Approves* the projected use of general-purpose funds in the biennium 2022–2023, and invites Member States to provide contributions totalling at least 3,340,600 United States dollars;

9. *Endorses* the programme support cost funds and special-purpose estimates as indicated in the table below;

**Resource projections for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund**

Fund category	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		Posts	
	2020–2021 (revised)	2022–2023	2020–2021	2022–2023
<b>General-purpose</b>				
Post	2 088.7	2 397.8	7	7
Non-post	1 340.2	942.8		
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3 428.9</b>	<b>3 340.6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Special-purpose</b>	325 466.1	404 130.5	264	320
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>325 466.1</b>	<b>404 130.5</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>320</b>
<b>Programme support cost</b>				
Post	18 745.7	24 331.9	64	66
Non-post	7 159.7	3 584.1		
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>25 905.4</b>	<b>27 916.0</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>354 800.4</b>	<b>435 387.1</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>393</b>

10. *Notes* that the resource projections estimated above are subject to the availability of funding;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to eliminate disparities in the funding model of the Office, and in this regard requests the Office to continue its fundraising activities with regard to general-purpose funding in order to improve the ability of the Office to effectively uphold core programmatic functions, such as normative work and research;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to report on the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) crisis on the financial situation, governance and programmatic activities of the Office, including on the lessons learned from the response of the Office to the pandemic at headquarters and in the field;

13. *Reiterates* its request to the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to ensure that estimated costs of projected activities of the Secretariat to the Governing Bodies, as well as those of the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board, are duly and distinctly reflected in future consolidated budget documents;

14. *Urges* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within existing resources and on an equitable basis, to continue to ensure effective respect for multilingualism in the meetings and activities of the intergovernmental bodies for which the Office serves as the secretariat, and requests the Executive Director, within existing resources, to make all decisions and resolutions adopted by those intergovernmental bodies directly available on the website of the Office in all six official languages of the United Nations, on an equitable basis in relation to their English versions.

**Resolution 30/3**

**Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**

*The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,*

*Recalling* its resolution 18/3 of 24 April 2009 and Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 of 20 March 2009, entitled “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”, in which the Commissions decided to establish a standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on governance and finance, in order to achieve the common objective of strengthening the performance and effectiveness of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council decision 2009/251 of 30 July 2009, entitled “Frequency and duration of the reconvened sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”, in which the Council decided that, starting in 2010, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice would hold reconvened sessions on an annual basis in the second half of the year, in order to be able, pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3, to consider the reports of and the recommendations proposed by the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

*Considering* that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice recommends for adoption by the Economic and Social Council the draft decision entitled “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”,

*Reaffirming* the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of crime prevention and criminal justice and as the governing body of the crime programme of the Office,

*Reaffirming also* its resolutions 20/1 of 13 April 2011, 22/2 of 26 April 2013, 24/1 of 22 May 2015 and 26/1 of 26 May 2017, and Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 54/10 of 25 March 2011, 56/11 of 15 March 2013, 58/1 of 17 March 2015 and 60/3 of 17 March 2017, entitled “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: recommendations of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”,

*Concerned* about the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and aware of the need to continue addressing that situation in a pragmatic, results-oriented, efficient and cooperative manner,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime prepared in accordance with Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 18/3, 20/1,

22/2, 24/1 and 26/1 and Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 52/13, 54/10, 56/11, 58/1 and 60/3;<sup>11</sup>

2. *Expresses appreciation* to the Co-Chairs of the working group for their work and to the Secretariat for its assistance in facilitating the work of the working group, and requests the Secretariat to continue providing such necessary assistance, bearing in mind the limited resources available to it;

3. *Welcomes* the established practice of having a clear schedule of meetings and programme of work for the working group, and encourages the working group to hold at least four meetings a year, with each meeting lasting two days;

4. *Requests* that relevant documentation for each meeting of the working group continue to be distributed by the Secretariat no later than 10 working days before the meeting;<sup>12</sup>

5. *Welcomes* the grouping of the items under consideration by the working group into two parts, namely an operational part and a programmatic part;

### **Operational part**

#### **Strengthening the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**

6. *Recalls* that the working group has, on several occasions, discussed fundraising issues, so as to ensure adequate, predictable and stable funding, and has also discussed ways to achieve a sustainable balance between core and non-core funding for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, so as to ensure delivery capacity and the sustainability of its global and regional programmes;

7. *Also recalls* that the working group has discussed the development and roll-out of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Strategy 2021–2025 and of the regional strategic visions of the Office and has also discussed the involvement of the Office in the implementation of United Nations reforms;

8. *Further recalls* that the working group has been considering the implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 60/10 of 8 December 2017, 61/12 of 7 December 2018, 62/9 of 13 December 2019 and 63/6 of 4 December 2020 and of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 26/5 of 8 December 2017, 27/7 of 7 December 2018, 28/4 of 13 December 2019 and 29/1 of 4 December 2020;

9. *Requests* the working group to continue examining and discussing the financial and governance situation of the Office, inter alia, by:

(a) Receiving reports on and facilitating the resource mobilization process to promote programmes of the Office, stressing their resource requirements and enhancing funding predictability in line with its strategic frameworks;

(b) Continuing to discuss with the Office efforts to further encourage donors to provide general-purpose funding, including by further increasing communication and the transparency and quality of reporting, and continuing to discuss the reasons for the low level of general-purpose funding, with a view to restoring an adequate balance between general-purpose and special-purpose funds;

(c) Continuing to study the progress and impact of the implementation of full cost recovery and the flexible application and allocation of programme support costs, with a view to increasing the effectiveness and results of the technical assistance programmes of the Office;

<sup>11</sup> E/CN.7/2021/3-E/CN.15/2021/3 and E/CN.7/2021/3/Add.1-E/CN.15/2021/3/Add.1.

<sup>12</sup> The Commission requests that the draft consolidated budget for the Office be provided no later than 15 working days before the meeting.

(d) Continuing to discuss with the Office the concerns related to regular budget shortfalls and possible solutions to address them;

10. *Also requests* the working group to consider the implementation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Strategy 2021–2025, other strategies of the Office and other possible subsequent strategic documents, inter alia, by:

(a) Continuing to receive updates on the milestones and deliverables achieved in the implementation of the Strategy for 2021–2025 and other possible subsequent strategic documents;

(b) Continuing to be presented with information on the financial implications of the Strategy for 2021–2025 and other possible subsequent strategic documents, and on potential reallocations to address those implications;

11. *Further requests* the working group to continue considering the involvement of the Office in the implementation of United Nations reforms, including in terms of enhanced synergies and effectiveness, achievements, challenges, cost savings and benefits, as well as the contributions of the Office to supporting Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>13</sup>

12. *Requests* the working group to continue reviewing the implementation by the Office of the mandates contained in the resolutions adopted by the Commissions on the consolidated budget for the Office and its implementation;

13. *Also requests* the working group to continue considering the efforts of the Office to enhance the organizational arrangements for the meetings of intergovernmental bodies for which the Office serves as the secretariat, including with regard to promoting multilingualism, subject to the availability of adequate resources, in meetings and activities of such bodies;

#### **Improving gender balance and geographical representation**

14. *Recalls* that the working group has been discussing the question of geographical representation and gender balance in the composition of the staff of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as part of its efforts to improve the governance of the Office;

15. *Requests* the working group to:

(a) Continue addressing the issue of gender balance and, in line with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, equitable geographical representation and diversity and its evolution in order to discuss possible measures for further improvement in this area by, inter alia, intensifying outreach efforts;

(b) Continue receiving comprehensive updates, including in a disaggregated form, on the composition of the staff and the recruitment policies of the Office and on steps taken to achieve further improvements in this area;

#### **Promoting a culture of evaluation within the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation**

16. *Recalls* that the working group has been shown numerous presentations on evaluation findings, on which occasions participants have reiterated the importance of ensuring accountability, evaluation, transparency and learning in the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

17. *Requests* the working group to invite the Independent Evaluation Section to:

(a) Continue providing the working group with information on conducted strategic evaluations and on the integration of the results of those evaluations;

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<sup>13</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).



(b) Continue promoting a culture of evaluation throughout the Office at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation;

(c) Continue working with the Office to monitor the implementation of recommendations made by relevant oversight bodies;

(d) Continue working with the Office to increase coordination between evaluation, audit and other oversight bodies, with the aim of building a continuum of oversight of projects and programmes of the Office;

### **Programmatic part**

#### **Promoting an integrated programme approach**

18. *Recalls* that the working group has been following the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in implementing an integrated programme approach aimed at strengthening the links between normative mandates and operational technical assistance and improving linkages between policy, strategic planning, evaluation, programmatic work, the mobilization of resources and partnerships with all relevant stakeholders;

19. *Requests* the working group to:

(a) Continue promoting regular dialogue among all Member States, as well as with the Office, on the planning and formulation of the operational activities of the Office, especially with regard to its global and regional programmes, in line with its strategic frameworks, and on the implementation by the Office of relevant thematic resolutions;

(b) Continue receiving updates from the Office on progress made in the implementation of country, regional and global programmes, with those updates to:

(i) Be clustered according to the five thematic areas of the mandated work of the Office;

(ii) Inform Member States about key milestones and deliverables achieved under the programmes, as well as about the envisaged follow-up activities;

(iii) Include overviews of the findings of evaluations of those programmes, as well as information on the management response to evaluation results;

(iv) Also include information on existing funding gaps hampering implementation, as well as on suggestions to address those gaps;

(v) Cover the efforts of the Office to integrate cross-cutting and other relevant issues into the development and implementation of country, regional and global programmes;

#### **Ensuring a comprehensive and coordinated approach to the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the field**

20. *Recalls* that the working group has been discussing the programme development efforts implemented by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime at the regional and country levels;

21. *Requests* the working group to continue considering the development and implementation of the regional strategic visions of the Office and the implementation of field-based programmes;

#### **Enhancing the strategic response of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including in relation to, among others, research, scientific evidence-based policies and gender mainstreaming**

22. *Recalls* that the working group has been discussing research activities and publications of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the related timelines, including the criteria and methodology underlying those research activities;

23. *Also recalls* that the working group has been discussing the question of gender mainstreaming in the policies and programmes of the Office, including the development and implementation of the strategy for gender equality and the empowerment of women of the United Nations Office at Vienna and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as part of its efforts to align its work with the guidance note on gender mainstreaming in the work of the Office;

24. *Requests* the working group to:

(a) Continue discussing issues related to advancing the research and analysis capacity of the Office, so as to ensure the formulation and implementation of scientific evidence-based responses and services, and to continue receiving updates, on a regular basis, on ongoing and future research activities and publications of the Office;

(b) Continue addressing the question of gender mainstreaming in the policies and programmes of the Office at the strategic level in order to discuss possible measures for further improvement in this area.

## Chapter II

### **Thematic discussion on effective measures to prevent and counter the smuggling of migrants, while protecting the rights of smuggled migrants, particularly women and children, and those of unaccompanied migrant children**

3. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 8 December 2021, the Commission addressed agenda item 5, entitled “Thematic discussion on effective measures to prevent and counter the smuggling of migrants, while protecting the rights of smuggled migrants, particularly women and children, and those of unaccompanied migrant children”, pursuant to Economic and Social Council decisions 2020/230 and 2021/219.
4. For its consideration of agenda item 5, the Commission had before it the notes by the Secretariat containing guides for the thematic discussion ([E/CN.15/2020/6](#) and [E/CN.15/2021/6](#)).
5. Introductory remarks were made by the Chair of the Commission, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, and the Chief of the Justice Section of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). A representative of the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network reported on the workshop held by the network on the margins of the regular session in May 2021.
6. The panel discussion held at the 1st meeting was presided over by the Chair of the Commission and led by the following panellists: Nkemdilim Edith Onyemenam (Nigeria), Keith Shannon (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Ivan Gospodinov (Bulgaria) and Aisha Naeem (Maldives). The panel discussion held at the 2nd meeting, also presided over by the Chair, was led by the following panellists: Guillermina Benito (Argentina), Goge Maimouna Gazibo (Niger), Rami Badawy (United States of America) and Juan Francisco Espinosa Palacios (Colombia).
7. Statements were made by the representatives of Turkey, China, Thailand, the United States, the Russian Federation, Brazil, Kenya, Armenia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Guatemala, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico and Morocco. The observer for the European Union also made a statement on behalf of the European Union and its member States.<sup>14</sup>
8. The observers for Egypt, Malta, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Dominican Republic, Azerbaijan, Canada, Australia, Honduras, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Pakistan and Finland also made statements.
9. Statements were also made by the observers for Maat for Peace, Development, and Human Rights Association, Criminologists without Borders, Inc. and Socialist International Women (on behalf of the members of the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development Vienna).

### **Summary by the Chair**

10. The summary by the Chair of the salient points, which was not subject to negotiation, is presented below.
11. Many speakers welcomed the attention devoted by the Commission to the topic of the thematic discussion.
12. A number of speakers referred to the enduring value of international instruments, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, and recognized that

<sup>14</sup> Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia and Ukraine aligned themselves with the statement.

they constituted an important framework to combat the smuggling of migrants. In addition, many speakers, from various regions, mentioned the need to use existing regional processes to efficiently combat the crime.

13. With wide recognition that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has affected migration flows, numerous speakers stressed that the response to the pandemic, in particular mobility restriction measures, had increased migrant smuggling activities that expose the most vulnerable, including women and children, to dangerous and violent forms of smuggling. Specific drivers of migration that have been exacerbated by the pandemic, including poverty and insecurity, were noted by some speakers. Numerous speakers stressed the need to address the root causes driving migration and some noted the relevance of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in guiding global migration management.

14. Some speakers noted that the pandemic had also affected irregular migrants in transit and reduced their livelihood and employment opportunities, thereby increasing their vulnerability to exploitation. The need to raise awareness of sanitary measures and vaccination options in communities of irregular migrants, who were often less aware of the risks linked to the pandemic, was noted. Several speakers added that smuggled migrants, owing to their irregular status, were particularly vulnerable to violence, abuse and other crimes, including trafficking in persons, with women and girls commonly subjected to gender-based violence. In that regard, some speakers stressed the need to improve access to justice for irregular migrants who are victims of crimes. Several speakers mentioned that smuggling was linked to other forms of crime, such as trafficking in persons and corruption.

15. Many speakers stressed the need to uphold the human rights of smuggled migrants along migratory routes and to give priority to ensuring the safety and security of smuggled migrants, without discrimination and regardless of their status. The protection of the rights of women and children and the need to provide for the specific needs of different vulnerable groups were repeatedly mentioned. It was recalled that human security should be a guiding principle in anti-smuggling interventions, and it was noted that the protection of migrants must be at the centre of the response to the smuggling of migrants. The importance of law enforcement officials applying a gender-sensitive and child-sensitive approach in interacting with smuggled migrants, taking into account the trauma migrants may have experienced, was underscored.

16. Several speakers highlighted the importance of a human rights-based approach to migration management that includes the decriminalization of irregular migration and the creation of opportunities for regularizing the situation of non-documented migrants. It was noted that criminalizing irregular migration might undermine assistance to smuggled refugees and migrants.

17. The enhancement of access to pathways for regular and safe migration was emphasized by several speakers as key to reducing irregular migration and migrant smuggling activities and protecting the rights of migrants. A number of speakers stated that the closure of borders did not improve migration management and furthered smuggling activities.

18. Most speakers underscored the importance of enhancing regional and international cooperation, as well as effective border management, in preventing and countering the smuggling of migrants and organized criminal groups that profit from the crime. Reference was made to the need to coordinate transnational law enforcement efforts as much as possible in order to efficiently disrupt and dismantle smuggling networks and share information. The timely exchange of information and well-coordinated actions were said to be essential for fighting the crime.

19. Information and communications technology was referred to by several speakers as increasingly enabling the smuggling of migrants and at the same time serving as a useful tool to be utilized by law enforcement officials in the detection and prosecution of migrant smuggling cases. Different strategies concerning the use of new technologies to prevent and investigate the smuggling of migrants were also discussed.

20. The need to train law enforcement officials to recognize factors of vulnerability and uphold the rights of smuggled refugees and migrants was mentioned by some speakers, who also noted the positive example of joint inter-agency work to support unaccompanied migrant children. In addition, it was mentioned that successful prosecutions of aggravated forms of migrant smuggling could increase the reporting of such crimes to law enforcement and act as a deterrent for smuggling networks.

21. Many speakers underlined the valuable role of UNODC in assisting Member States by providing expertise and technical assistance to develop effective measures to prevent the smuggling of migrants, while ensuring the protection of their rights. Speakers underlined the need to strengthen national data collection and analysis efforts to better understand the smuggling of migrants and support the development of sound migration and law enforcement policies.

## Chapter III

### Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions

22. At its 3rd and 4th meetings, held jointly with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on 9 December 2021, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered agenda item 4, which read as follows:

“4. Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:

(a) Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme;

(c) Working methods of the Commission;

(d) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.”

23. For its consideration of item 4, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2021/3/Add.1-E/CN.15/2021/3/Add.1);

(b) Report of the Executive Director on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2022–2023 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2021/11-E/CN.15/2021/18](#));

(c) Report of the Executive Director on gender balance and geographical representation within the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([E/CN.7/2021/12-E/CN.15/2021/19](#));

(d) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2022–2023 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2021/13-E/CN.15/2021/20);

(e) Conference room paper prepared by the Secretariat on the draft proposed programme plan for 2023 and programme performance for 2021 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2021/CRP.10-E/CN.15/2021/CRP.5);

(f) Conference room paper prepared by the Secretariat on enhanced support to Member States through the implementation of the United Nations Office at Vienna /United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Strategy for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (2018–2021) (E/CN.7/2021/CRP.11-E/CN.15/2021/CRP.6);

(g) Conference room paper prepared by the Secretariat on the new working methods of the governing bodies of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: from business continuity to preparations for the post-COVID era (E/CN.7/2021/CRP.13-E/CN.15/2021/CRP.7);

(h) Conference room paper prepared by the Secretariat on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 75/290 A, on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council (E/CN.7/2021/CRP.14-E/CN.15/2021/CRP.8);

(i) Conference room paper on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2021/CRP.15-E/CN.15/2021/CRP.9).

24. The Director of the Division for Management, the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs and the Chief of the Secretariat to the Governing Bodies of UNODC made introductory statements. The representative of Colombia and the observer for Spain, in their capacity as Co-Chairs of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC, also made introductory statements. Two representatives of the Secretariat made presentations.

25. Statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Burkina Faso, the United States, Switzerland, Colombia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, the Russian Federation, Sweden, Kenya, Canada, China, Algeria, Jamaica and Kyrgyzstan. Statements were also made by the observers for the Islamic Republic of Iran, Argentina, Armenia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Bangladesh.

26. Joint statements were made by the observers for Costa Rica on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and by the observer for the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs.

## **A. Deliberations**

27. Speakers recognized the challenges associated with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic for programme planning and delivery, and commended the efforts undertaken by the Office. The importance of further supporting Member States with efficient programme delivery despite the challenges posed by the pandemic was underscored.

28. Many speakers welcomed the efforts made by the Secretariat to ensure business continuity and facilitate the participation of all States in the meetings of the Commissions under measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and requested UNODC to continue such efforts. In that context, the representative of Kenya announced his country's continued availability to host the Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, in 2022. Some speakers expressed concern about the reduction of meeting times with interpretation by one third and called upon the Office to explore solutions to address the situation. The importance of multilingualism was underlined, and UNODC was called upon to continue its efforts in that regard.

29. Many speakers welcomed the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC for an unlimited period and expressed appreciation for the new working methods. The structural changes, the dividing of the work into programmatic and operational segments and the introduction of a Bureau were welcomed. Many speakers thanked the Co-Chairs for their contribution to the future of the working group. Some speakers emphasized the role of the working group in enhancing the transparency and accountability of the Office and strengthening cooperation and trust between Member States and UNODC. The importance of continued dialogue with the Executive Director of the Office was emphasized.

30. The report of the Executive Director of UNODC on the consolidated budget of the Office for the biennium 2022–2023 was welcomed, as were the efforts to explore a creative programming and funding model.

31. Several speakers reiterated the importance of adequate, predictable and stable funding for UNODC to ensure the implementation of its mandates and the continuity of its high-quality operational and technical assistance, in particular to developing countries. Several speakers expressed concern about the challenges that the Office faced regarding the limited general-purpose funding, which could affect the Office's ability to efficiently maintain core programmatic functions. It was noted that the COVID-19 pandemic had further exacerbated the financial situation of the Office. Some speakers called upon Member States to consider making non-earmarked contributions and emphasized the need for sufficient regular budget funding. UNODC was also encouraged to increase transparency regarding the use of programme support cost funds, to broaden their distribution, including to UNODC field operations, and to increase the flexibility of their use.

32. Several speakers commended UNODC for its Strategy 2021–2025, as well as the Strategic Vision for Africa 2030. The efforts made by UNODC with regard to the implementation of the United Nations development system reform and the United Nations management system reform were welcomed by several speakers. Furthermore, several speakers underscored the importance of keeping Member States regularly informed about the Office’s progress in implementing the reforms.

33. Several speakers commended the UNODC regional programme for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries, and one speaker reported on the launch of the UNODC programme for Central Asia for the period 2022–2025.

34. The need to strengthen results-based management, with a view to enhancing transparency and accountability, and the integration of monitoring and evaluation was underscored by some speakers.

35. The progress made by UNODC in achieving gender equality in its staff composition was welcomed by several delegations, and further efforts to achieve equal representation, in particular at the senior and policymaking levels, were called for. Speakers requested UNODC to continue reporting on such efforts to the Commissions.

36. The importance of ensuring the integration of gender perspectives into all aspects of the programming and work of the Office was highlighted. Appreciation was expressed for the efforts to implement the United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV)/UNODC Strategy for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, as well as the work of the Gender Team in the Office of the Director-General/Executive Director. Some speakers made reference to the Group of Friends for Gender Equality at UNOV/UNODC and invited Member States that had not yet done so to join the Group. One speaker stated that his country opposed the inclusion of references to LGBTQI+ persons in any UNODC document, also referring to other countries that opposed such inclusion, while a few speakers encouraged UNODC to broaden its work on the rights of LGBTQI+ persons and allocate the necessary resources.

37. While welcoming the efforts made by UNODC in that regard, several speakers expressed the view that greater efforts were needed to increase geographical diversity and equitable geographical representation in the staff composition of the Office, in particular efforts to enhance the representation of developing, unrepresented and underrepresented countries. Reference was made to the Secretariat’s Geographical Diversity Strategy, and the Office was requested to provide detailed information on the implementation and impact of the strategy. Some speakers emphasized that the selection of candidates should continue to be focused on merit and competence, as enshrined in Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations.

## **B. Action taken by the Commission**

38. At its 5th meeting, on 10 December 2021, the Commission adopted resolution 30/2, entitled “Budget for the biennium 2022–2023 for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund” (E/CN.15/2021/L.12) (for the text, see chap. I, sect. B).

39. At the same meeting, the Commission recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of a draft decision entitled “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime” (E/CN.15/2021/L.10) (for the text, see chap. I, sect. A, draft decision I).

40. Also at the same meeting, the Commission adopted resolution 30/3, entitled “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime” (E/CN.15/2021/L.11) (for the text, see chap. I, sect. B).



## Chapter IV

### **Follow-up to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**

41. At its 5th meeting, on 10 December 2021, the Commission considered agenda item 9, entitled “Follow-up to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”.

42. The Chair of the Commission made an introductory statement.

43. Statements were made by the representatives of Japan, the United States, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mexico and Ecuador. The observers for Canada and for the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice also made statements.

### **Deliberations**

44. The Chair recalled that the Commission, at its regular thirtieth session, in May 2021, had recommended to the Economic and Social Council the approval of a draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly, entitled “Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”, by which the Assembly would endorse the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Chair further recalled that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2021/20 of 22 July 2021, had recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution and that the Third Committee had approved the resolution on 5 November 2021. It was highlighted that, in paragraph 11 of the resolution, the Commission had been requested to hold intersessional thematic discussions to effectively follow up on the Kyoto Declaration through the sharing of information, good practices and lessons learned. The Chair noted that the workplan for the discussions had been adopted by the Commission by means of a silence procedure.

45. The Chair expressed satisfaction that the first such thematic discussion, focused on the first pillar of the Kyoto Declaration, on advancing crime prevention, had been held successfully from 10 to 12 November 2021. National practitioners and policymakers from Member States, as well as representatives of United Nations entities and other intergovernmental and international organizations, and civil society experts had exchanged good practices and lessons learned. The Chair mentioned that his summary of the discussion would be brought to the attention of the Commission at its regular thirty-first session, in May 2022. Reference was made to the possibility of holding the Fifteenth Crime Congress in 2026 and making a recommendation to that end to the General Assembly in the next resolution on matters relating to the crime congress, in the light of the developments related to the COVID-19 pandemic and with a view to maintaining the five-year cycle of the crime congresses.

46. A number of speakers recalled that the Fourteenth Congress had been held successfully despite the difficulties caused by the pandemic. Satisfaction was expressed with the adoption of the Kyoto Declaration and the reiterated commitment to implementing it. Gratitude was expressed to the Government of Japan for the hosting of the Congress and the support provided to the Secretariat, which had enabled the immediate follow-up to the Kyoto Declaration.

47. A number of speakers noted that the immediate follow-up to the Kyoto Declaration had commenced in the form of an interactive and useful thematic discussion on the first pillar of the Declaration, on advancing crime prevention. Some speakers highlighted topics of particular concern for the follow-up process.

## Chapter V

### **Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 72/305, including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

48. At its 4th meeting, held jointly with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on 9 December 2021, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered agenda item 10, entitled “Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 72/305, including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.

49. The Chief of the Secretariat to the Governing Bodies of UNODC made an introductory statement.

50. Statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Mexico and China.

### **Deliberations**

51. Speakers emphasized the substantive contributions of the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, within their respective mandates, to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. It was mentioned that the review of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council was to take into account the 2030 Agenda, while at the same time considering the specific mandates of the Vienna-based commissions. The importance of cooperation among States and within the United Nations system was highlighted.

52. The work of UNODC in collecting statistical information on the world drug problem, crime prevention and criminal justice, which also contributed to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, was welcomed. The unique mandate of the Office as the main entity in the United Nations system for addressing drugs and crime was also underlined.

## Chapter VI

### **Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Commission**

53. At its 5th meeting, on 10 December 2021, the Commission considered agenda item 11, entitled “Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Commission”. The Chair introduced the item and brought to the attention of the Commission matters relating to the organization of work for its thirty-first session.

#### **A. Deliberations**

##### **1. Duration of the thirty-first session and other arrangements**

54. The Chair recalled that the extended Bureau had recommended 16 to 20 May 2022 as the dates for the regular thirty-first session of the Commission and 8 and 9 December 2022 as the dates for the reconvened thirty-first session of the Commission. The extended Bureau had also recommended pre-session informal consultations to be held on 13 May 2022.

55. It was brought to the attention of the Commission that, in accordance with its decision 21/1, the firm deadline for the submission of draft resolutions would normally be one month prior to the commencement of the session. However, given that 18 April 2022 was an official United Nations holiday, it had been decided that the deadline be set for 19 April 2022 at noon.

##### **2. Thematic discussion**

56. The Chair recalled that the Extended Bureau had agreed to follow the approach used after the Thirteenth Crime Congress, namely, to invite Member States to propose topics for a multi-year workplan for consideration by the Commission at its reconvened session in December 2021.

57. The Chair noted that several rounds of discussions had been held in that regard and that the themes contained in the draft decision submitted by the Chair (E/CN.15/2021/L.13) had been kept broad in scope to cover all elements suggested by delegations.

##### **3. Workshop of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network**

58. The Chair recalled that for several years a workshop organized by the institutes comprising the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network had been held during the first meeting of the Committee of the Whole, prior to its consideration of draft resolutions. The topic of the workshop would normally be identical or similar to the prominent theme of the respective session of the Commission. It was noted that once the topic for the workshop was proposed by the institutes of the programme network, it would be brought to the attention of the extended Bureau of the Commission for consideration and approval.

##### **4. Integration of the main theme of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development for 2022**

59. It was recalled that, in its resolution 75/290 A, the General Assembly had encouraged the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council to align their discussions with the main annual theme of the Council. Accordingly, delegations were encouraged to link their statements at the thirty-first session of the Commission, in particular during the general debate and the consideration of the dedicated agenda item on the contributions to the work of the Council, to the main theme of the Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development for 2022, which would be

“Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.

**5. Side events**

60. Regarding the organization of side events during the regular thirty-first session of the Commission, it was mentioned that, owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, consideration would need to be given to the feasibility of in-person and hybrid (in-person and online) side events closer to the date of the session. It was recalled that the guidelines for side events during the thirty-first session had been shared with all Member States on 25 November 2021 and that the application period for side events would be from 21 February to 4 March 2022.

**6. Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session**

61. The Chair recalled that the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-first session, as contained in the report of the Commission on its thirtieth session, had been approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2021/253.

**B. Action taken by the Commission**

62. At its 5th meeting, on 10 December 2021, the Commission endorsed the dates, deadlines and arrangements for its thirty-first session referred to in paragraphs 54–61 above. Draft decision II, on the organization of the thematic discussions at future sessions of the Commission (E/CN.15/2021/L.13), was adopted, as orally amended by the Chair, for transmission to the Economic and Social Council (for the text, see chap. I, sect. A).

## **Chapter VII**

### **Other business**

63. At its 5th meeting, on 10 December 2021, the Commission considered agenda item 12, entitled “Other business”. The Chair recalled that the Commission, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2021/24, entitled “Preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment”, was scheduled to hold expert discussions from 14 to 16 February 2022 on the topic of preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment. The regional groups had been invited to nominate panellists for the expert discussions by mid-January 2022.

## Chapter VIII

### **Adoption of the report of the Commission on its reconvened thirtieth session**

64. At its 5th meeting, on 10 December 2021, the Commission adopted the parts of its report on the organization of the reconvened session and administrative matters (E/CN.15/2021/L.1/Add.8); on agenda item 5, on the thematic discussion on effective measures to prevent and counter the smuggling of migrants, while protecting the rights of smuggled migrants, particularly women and children, and those of unaccompanied migrant children (E/CN.15/2021/L.1/Add.9); and on agenda item 4, on strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions (E/CN.15/2021/L.1/Add.10). The Commission also adopted a draft decision, introduced by the Chair, on the report of the Commission on its reconvened thirtieth session, for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. A, draft decision III). The Commission also decided to entrust the finalization of the report to the Chair of the Commission, with the assistance of the Rapporteur.

## **Chapter IX**

### **Organization of the reconvened session and administrative matters**

#### **A. Opening and duration of the session**

65. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held its reconvened thirtieth session in Vienna from 8 to 10 December 2021.

66. The Economic and Social Council, in its decision 2011/259, entitled “Joint meetings of the reconvened sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”, decided that, starting in 2011, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice would hold joint meetings during their reconvened sessions for the sole purpose of considering agenda items included in the operational segment of the agendas of both Commissions, with a view to providing integrated policy directives to UNODC on administrative, budgetary and strategic management issues. The Council also decided that the practice of holding back-to-back reconvened sessions of the Commissions would be continued to enable each Commission to consider, in separate meetings, agenda items included in the normative segment of its agenda.

67. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held a total of five meetings during its reconvened thirtieth session. Two meetings of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice were held jointly with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in order to consider items 4 and 10 of the agenda of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and items 4 and 9 of the agenda of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

68. At the joint plenary meeting, the Chair of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs made statements. The Executive Director of UNODC addressed the Commissions in a video message.

#### **B. Attendance**

69. The revised arrangements for the organization of the reconvened thirtieth session had been endorsed by the Commission by means of a silence procedure on 29 November 2021. In accordance with those arrangements, the session was conducted in a hybrid format (in person and online).

70. The reconvened thirtieth session was attended by participants from 109 countries, including representatives of 36 States members of the Commission (4 were not represented). Observers for other States Members of the United Nations, representatives of entities of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations also attended. A total of 510 participants were registered for the session. A list of participants is contained in document E/CN.15/2021/INF/3.

#### **C. Documentation**

71. The documents before the Commission at its reconvened thirtieth session are listed in conference room paper E/CN.15/2021/CRP.4/Add.1.

#### **D. Closure of the session**

72. At the 5th meeting, on 10 December 2021, a closing statement was made by the Chair of the Commission. Statements were also made by the representatives of Guatemala, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Thailand.