



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
28 April 2004

Original: English

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Thirteenth session

Vienna, 11-20 May 2004

Item 9 of the provisional agenda*

Strategic management and programme questions

Functioning of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the management of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund

Report of the Secretary-General**

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* E/CN.15/2004/1/Rev.1.

** The submission of this report was delayed to enable the inclusion of the most up-to-date information relating to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund.



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I. Introduction

1. The present report has been prepared pursuant to the implementation of the following resolutions:

(a) General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, entitled “Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields”;

(b) Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/31 of 22 July 2003, entitled “Functioning of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”;

(c) Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/24 of 22 July 2003, entitled “Work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention, including the management of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund”.

2. In paragraph 46 of its resolution 57/270 B, the General Assembly requested each functional commission “to examine its methods of work in order to better pursue the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, recognizing that there was no need for a uniform approach since each functional commission had its own specificity, on the basis of a report with recommendations to be submitted by the Secretary-General to each functional commission; the functional commissions and other relevant bodies of the Economic and Social Council should report to the Council no later than 2005 on the outcome of that examination”.

II. Functioning of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

A. Mandates and terms of reference

3. In its resolution 1992/1 of 6 February 1992, the Economic and Social Council adopted the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, annexed to General Assembly resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, and decided to dissolve the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control and to establish the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as a functional commission of the Council.

4. In accordance with paragraph 26 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (General Assembly resolution 46/152, annex), the Commission has the following functions:

(a) To provide policy guidance to the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice;

(b) To develop, monitor and review the implementation of the programme on the basis of a system of medium-term planning in accordance with the priority principles provided in paragraph 21 of the statement of principles and programme of action;

(c) To facilitate and help to coordinate the activities of the United Nations institutes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders;

(d) To mobilize the support of Member States for the Programme;

(e) To prepare for the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice and to consider suggestions regarding possible subjects for the programme of work as submitted by the congresses.

5. Through its annual sessions and intersessional work, the Commission has provided extensive policy guidance to the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. As reflected in the reports on each of its sessions, the Commission has addressed a broad spectrum of high-priority issues, has conducted in-depth policy dialogue on those issues and has formulated policy and programme recommendations; those recommendations have subsequently been endorsed by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. The guidance and recommendations of the Commission have led to the negotiation and adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I) and its three Protocols (Assembly resolutions 55/25, annexes II and III, and 55/255, annex) and the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Assembly resolution 58/4, annex).

6. The Commission has served as the substantive intergovernmental body overseeing the development, monitoring and review of implementation of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation. For this purpose, the Commission has regularly reviewed and made recommendations on the proposed medium-term plan, revisions to the medium-term plan and biennial programme of work. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/269 of 23 December 2003, the Commission, at its thirteenth session, will review the proposed biennial programme plan for the programme on drugs and crime, which is to form part of the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2006-2007 that is to replace the current four-year medium-term plan. The Commission has also reviewed annual reports on the work of the Programme and other relevant reports.

7. During each of its sessions, the Commission has paid special attention to guiding and supporting the work of the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network. It has regularly reviewed reports on the activities of the institutes and promoted their role in different aspects of the Programme, such as research, technical assistance and the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice.

8. The Commission has made efforts to mobilize the support of Member States for the Programme, both for substantive programme direction and financial resources, the latter through increased regular budget allocations, voluntary financial contributions and in-kind contributions.

9. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice has served as the preparatory body for the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice. The Commission fulfils that responsibility by debating and formulating recommendations on organizational and substantive aspects of the

congresses, including recommendations on substantive agenda items to be discussed at the congresses and on topics for workshops to be held during the congresses. Its recommendations on the congresses are submitted through the Economic and Social Council for adoption by the General Assembly. The Commission also determines and reviews action on follow-up to the conclusions and recommendations of the congresses. For example, the Commission developed plans of action for implementing the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders¹ and endorsed by the Assembly in its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000. The Commission continues to assess the progress made in implementing those plans of action.

B. Working methods

10. Since its inception, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice has paid special attention to strategic management, including the strategic management of the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme. The outcome of its deliberations and decisions and recommendations in this respect are reflected in Commission resolutions 1/1, 4/3 and 6/1 and in the related provisions of General Assembly resolutions 50/146 of 21 December 1995 and 50/214 of 23 December 1995. The Commission has sought to manage its work effectively by establishing multi-year work plans; soliciting the submission of proposals from Member States for consideration by the Commission well in advance of its sessions and specifying detailed information to be submitted with such proposals; establishing priority themes for discussion at each of its sessions; creating an informal consultative group on resource mobilization for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and an informal working group to review programme mandates and resources; holding intersessional meetings of its bureau and joint meetings of its bureau with the bureau of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs; conducting an annual dialogue between its bureau and the bureau of the Economic and Social Council; including the chairmen of the regional groups, the Group of 77 and China and the Presidency of the European Union in the meetings of its bureau; conducting intersessional briefings for permanent missions on programme developments and preparations for its forthcoming sessions; holding informal intersessional meetings; and conducting panel discussions and workshops in connection with its sessions.

11. In section I of its resolution 6/1, entitled "Strategic management by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme", the Commission decided to establish a multi-year work plan, each year being devoted to a specific theme, in an effort to simplify its agenda and to plan substantive discussions in advance. Thus, the Commission had already been in compliance when the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1999/51 of 29 July 1999, entitled "Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions", in which the Council invited the functional commissions to consider adopting multi-year programmes of work. At its sixth session, the Commission established the themes for its seventh, eighth and ninth sessions. At its ninth session, the

Commission agreed that it should decide each year on the prominent theme for its subsequent session, as that would provide it with flexibility in selecting the most appropriate theme. So far, the Commission has selected the following themes for its sessions:

- (a) Organized transnational crime (seventh session);
- (b) Crime prevention (eighth session);
- (c) Results of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (ninth session);
- (d) Progress made in global action against corruption (tenth session);
- (e) Reform of the criminal justice system: achieving effectiveness and equity (eleventh session);
- (f) Trafficking in human beings, especially women and children (twelfth session);
- (g) The rule of law and development: the contribution of operational activities in crime prevention and criminal justice (thirteenth session).

During the twelfth session of the Commission, the following themes were suggested for thematic discussions at future sessions: “Domestic violence”; “Transnational organized crime and terrorism: links, concepts and international response” and “Money-laundering, financing of criminal activities and terrorism”.

12. In its resolution 2003/31, the Economic and Social Council encouraged States members of the Commission to submit their draft proposals to it in accordance with Commission resolution 5/3 and to include in such proposals the information required in accordance with the annex to Commission resolution 4/3, one month prior to the commencement of the session; and endorsed the request of the Commission to its bureau to report on its intersessional work annually, including on the adherence of Member States to the procedural requirements for the submission of draft proposals.

13. The experience of the Commission has been mixed regarding the provision by Member States of advance detailed information on proposals for its consideration, in accordance with the annex to its resolution 4/3. Following the adoption of its resolution 5/3, proposals submitted for consideration by the Commission at its sixth session were accompanied by statements regarding the required information, albeit of differing coverage (see, for example, conference room paper E/CN.15/1997/CRP.13 and Add.1). Thereafter, such statements were not provided.

14. In its resolution 2003/31, the Economic and Social Council decided that, with effect from 2004, the Commission should, at the end of its session, elect its bureau for the subsequent session and encourage it to play an active role in the preparation of the regular as well as the informal intersessional meetings of the Commission, so as to enable the Commission to provide continuous and effective policy guidance to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, and also decided that the Chairman should, whenever appropriate, invite the chairmen of the five regional groups, the chairman of the Group of 77 and China and the Presidency of the European Union to participate in the meetings of the bureau.

15. At its twelfth session, the Commission agreed that it would not elect a new bureau at the opening of the thirteenth session and that the officers for the twelfth session would also serve as the officers of the bureau for the thirteenth session of the Commission. At the end of its thirteenth session, the Commission will hold the first meeting of its fourteenth session for the sole purpose of electing a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. It has already become established practice for the Chairman of the Commission to invite, whenever appropriate, the chairmen of the five regional groups, the chairman of the Group of 77 and China and the Presidency of the European Union to participate in the meetings of the bureau of the Commission.

16. In its resolution 2003/31, the Economic and Social Council requested the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to submit to the Commission at its thirteenth session a report on the status of implementation of the mandates assigned to it by or through the recommendation of the Commission, including information on the requirements of such implementation. It should be recalled, in this connection, that pursuant to its resolution 6/1, the Commission had requested its Chairman to convene an informal working group of its members to review programme mandates and resources. The findings and recommendations of the working group were made available to the Commission at its seventh session in a conference room paper (E/CN.15/1998/CRP.2). That conference room paper will be made available to the Commission at its twelfth session. In addition, during its sixth and eighth sessions, a forecast of reporting obligations, listed by agenda item, for the subsequent several years was made available to the Commission at its sixth session (E/CN.15/1997/CRP.17) and at its eighth session E/CN.15/1999/CRP.14). Thereafter, a list of mandated reports under the proposed agenda items was regularly provided to the bureau of the Commission, in order to facilitate the preparation by the bureau of proposals on the draft provisional agenda for the subsequent session of the Commission. A consolidated list of resolutions of the intergovernmental bodies, setting forth the mandates for the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, is contained in programme 12 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005,² adopted by the General Assembly through its resolutions 55/234 of 23 December 2000 and 57/282 of 20 December 2002, and section 16 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 (A/58/6 (Sect. 16)),³ adopted by the Assembly in its resolution 58/270 of 23 December 2003. The medium-term plan and the programme budget constitute the translation of all legislative mandates into concrete programme activities. In its resolution 58/269, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, for submission to it at its fifty-ninth session, a strategic framework to replace the current four-year medium-term plan, which would comprise in one document:

(a) Part one: a plan outline, reflecting the long-term objectives of the Organization;

(b) Part two: a biennial programme plan, to cover two years.

The Commission will have before it, for review and comment, the proposed biennial programme plan for the programme on drugs and crime (E/CN.7/2004/12-E/CN.15/2004/13), which is to form part of the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2006-2007, to be submitted to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

17. The programme budget establishes the regular budget resources required and allocated for the activities proposed in the budget for implementing the mandates of the programme, as determined by the intergovernmental bodies reviewing the budget proposals, within the limits of the overall budget and requirements of the Organization. The approved level of resources for the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 did not include two out of three new posts for core work relating to the new United Nations Convention against Corruption, which were proposed in the Secretary-General's budget submission and recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for approval. The programme budget also provides information on the level of extrabudgetary resources estimated to be available during the biennium. Whereas significant improvement has occurred regarding allocation of resources for implementing the programme, especially through increased voluntary contributions, those improvements have taken place against a very small resource base and the level of available resources remains far below the full scale of programme requirements, particularly for enabling expeditious substantive initiatives and delivery of technical assistance to requesting countries.

18. Information on implementation of mandates, through the biennial programme budget, is contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000-2001 (A/57/62), especially in tables 1 and 4. The United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme had an implementation rate of 138 per cent in relation to the programmed outputs for the biennium and 96 per cent when taking into account only those outputs implemented as originally planned and those added by legislation during the biennium.

19. Information on implementation of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 is being finalized and will be available to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session. Initial data for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme indicate an implementation rate of 142 per cent when considering implemented quantifiable outputs in relation to outputs programmed at the beginning of the biennium. In line with the result-based budgeting, the report will focus on results achieved. Highlights of programme results for the biennium include:

(a) The entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the first two of its three Protocols, with 57 ratifications achieved for the Convention by the end of the biennium, 45 ratifications for the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Assembly resolution 55/25, annex II), 40 ratifications for the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Assembly resolution 55/25, annex II) and 12 ratifications for 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 (Assembly resolution 55/255, annex);

(b) The expeditious negotiation and adoption of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the holding of the High-Level Political

Conference for the Purpose of Signing the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Merida, Mexico, from 9 to 11 December 2003, at which 95 States signed and 1 State ratified the Convention;

(c) Provision of assistance to some 150 States collectively, through seminars, special substantive briefings and training activities, and provision of direct assistance to some 60 States, through advisory services and technical assistance activities, covering a wide range of crime prevention and criminal justice issues and resulting in the training of some 2,600 officials, including some 800 women;

(d) Mobilization of some 10 million United States dollars for operational activities, representing an increase of 30 per cent over the previous biennium.

C. Dialogue with Member States

20. Several initiatives have been taken to strengthen dialogue with Member States, as well as between Member States, concerning the priorities and management of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, especially in the context of programme management reforms in the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, initiated in early 2003. In addition to the informal intersessional meetings and meetings of the extended bureau of the Commission, ad hoc briefings were held for the permanent missions on programme management reform and budgetary issues. A number of special briefings were held and additional information was provided to Member States on the consolidated biennial budget of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Furthermore, the Executive Director and senior staff met frequently with the Chairmen of regional groups and representatives of Member States to keep them abreast of developments. Information on the work and decisions of the Office was routinely made available online.

21. In January 2003, Member States endorsed a paper prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled "Operational priorities: guidelines for the medium term", which involved a commitment to the following:

- (a) To pursue an integrated approach to drug and crime issues;
- (b) To place drug and crime issues in the context of sustainable development;
- (c) To balance prevention and enforcement activities;
- (d) To select operations on the basis of knowledge and strategic vision;
- (e) To help establish institutions that promote international best practices;
- (f) To leverage resources to exploit the power of partnership.

22. Subsequently, management reforms were initiated in the first half of 2003 to lay the groundwork for the implementation of the operational priorities. The focus was on streamlining the functions of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, reprofiling the field office network, securing a stable and predictable income base and strengthening human resource management, financial controls and information technology. Essential planning tools were introduced, such as country profiles and strategic programme frameworks, to support operational activities.

23. The new organizational structure of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime was introduced on 1 August 2003, reflecting its mandates and generating synergies by facilitating an integrated approach to the threats of drugs, crime and terrorism. The new structure is composed of four pillars: (a) an operational division to manage capacity-building technical assistance programmes; (b) a division for treaty affairs concerned with servicing the policy-making organs, the stewardship of the existing conventions and the delivery of legal expertise in treaty implementation; (c) a division for policy analysis and public affairs to build up the intellectual leadership of the Office and its cooperation with other partners (international and non-governmental organizations); and (d) a management pillar to provide human resource, information technology and financial management services. While the integration of activities to combat illicit drugs and crime is being fully implemented at the operational level, the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund retain their individual identity as regards the management of their respective resources. The Executive Committee functions as a steering body to support policy-setting and decision-making by the Executive Director. It includes all directors of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Office at Vienna. The new organizational structure of the Office has been promulgated in the Secretary-General's bulletin on the organization of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (ST/SGB/2004/6).

24. The new organizational structure includes an independent evaluation function whose findings are reported to senior management and Member States. A programme of work for evaluation activities in the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has been established; it covers a first batch of projects and activities financed from the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund. Upon completion, the results of the evaluation will be brought to the attention of the Commission. All projects routinely include provisions for evaluation. Steps are being taken to extend the financial information management system (ProFi) of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to the activities financed from the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, in order to systematize substantive monitoring throughout the Office and make information available on project status and monitoring reports to all managers via the Intranet; online access to ProFi is also available to Member States. In addition, in terms of monitoring and quality control, the terms of reference of the Programme and Project Committee, which is responsible for the approval of all operational activities, are being brought into line with management reforms. The Committee ensures that project proposals meet operational needs, quality and result-based requirements and comply with cost controls.

25. As part of the reform measures, a consolidated budget for the biennium 2004-2005 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime was prepared; the budget was presented at an intersessional meeting of the Commission on 10 November 2003. The consolidated budget presented a retrospective on the biennium 2002-2003 and a programme outline, including the resource requirements, for the biennium 2004-2005.

26. Following consultations between the Office of Human Resources Management at United Nations Headquarters, senior managers in the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint Advisory Committee, composed of staff and

management representatives, a policy on staff rotation was adopted. In line with the policy of the Secretary-General on mobility, the policy was designed to meet organizational needs, create multi-skilled and versatile staff and provide career opportunities. The configuration of the field offices has been streamlined and standardized. Other improvements have included a focus on reaching gender equality targets, a new work-life policy offering flexible working arrangements and the establishment of the Vienna Branch of the Ombudsman's Office of the United Nations. In consultation with Member States, an integrity initiative has also been launched.

27. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime continued to seek effective coordination of its activities with other concerned actors and participate in relevant coordination mechanisms. The Office is a member of Millennium Project Task Force 1 on Poverty and Economic Development, which addresses cross-cutting issues such as human rights, good governance, drugs and crime. Transnational crime was identified for in-depth review in 2004 in the road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration (General Assembly resolution 55/2). A note prepared for the meeting of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on 2 April 2004, entitled "Organized crime and corruption are threats to security and development: the role of the United Nations system", represented the results of system-wide consultations through the High-Level Committee on Programmes. At the meeting of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, it was recommended that relevant agencies of the United Nations system contribute to the thirteenth session of the Commission, given that its thematic discussion encompasses many of the critical issues outlined in the note. The Office also actively participates in the work of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs, the Executive Committee on Peace and Security and the United Nations Development Group.

III. United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund

28. In its resolution 2003/24, the Economic and Social Council requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to include in his annual report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice information on the financial status of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund. Whereas the report of the Executive Director on development, security and justice for all (E/CN.7/2004/9-E/CN.15/2004/2) addresses the policy and strategic issues pertaining to the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, more detailed information pertaining to the Fund is provided below.

A. Origin and evolution of the Fund

29. The United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund was originally established in 1967, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1086 B (XXXIX) of 30 July 1965, and was initially named the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence. It is administered under regulations 4.13,

4.14 and 6.2 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations and is subject to audit by the Board of Auditors. The Fund has been included in the annual United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, in line with General Assembly decision 34/440 of 17 December 1979.

30. In accordance with paragraph 44 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (General Assembly resolution 46/152, annex), the Fund was renamed the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund and became an integral part of the Programme.

31. Recognizing that the Fund is an invaluable source for increasing the capacity of the United Nations to respond more effectively to the needs of Member States for technical assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, the General Assembly has over the years repeatedly appealed for increased contributions to the Fund.

32. Most recently, in its resolution 57/173 of 18 December 2002, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity", the General Assembly reaffirmed the role of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing to Member States, upon request, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime and terrorism, as well as in the areas of reconstruction of national criminal justice systems. It also invited all States to support, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, including for the provision of technical assistance for the implementation of the commitments entered into at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, including the measures outlined in the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century (Assembly resolution 56/261, annex). In its resolution 58/140 of 22 December 2003, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity", the Assembly invited all States to support the operational activities of the Programme, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund.

33. In its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, in which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and two of the Protocols thereto, the General Assembly decided that, until the Conference of the Parties to the Convention decided otherwise, the account referred to in article 30 of the Convention would be operated within the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund. In its resolution 58/4 of 31 October 2003, in which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the Assembly decided that, until the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention decided otherwise, the account referred to in article 62 of the Convention would also be operated within the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund.

B. Management of the Fund

34. In order to make the operations of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, as well as the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute sub-account, as prompt and effective as possible, the United Nations Controller delegated the authority to manage the Fund to the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna, effective 1 January 2003. That delegation of authority is resulting in procedures becoming progressively streamlined, without weakening existing sound management policies. The project document review and processing time has been significantly reduced. New allotments and revisions are now being processed and issued expeditiously. Expenditure reporting and reconciliation procedures will also be further streamlined. As noted in paragraph 24 above, steps are being taken to apply the financial information management system (ProFi) to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund.

C. Contributions and pledges to and financial statements of the Fund

35. Table 1 contains a consolidated list of contributions and pledges to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund from 1992 to 2003; table 2 contains a list of contributions and pledges to the Fund during the biennium 2002-2003; and table 3 contains a list of contributions and pledges to the Fund from 1 January to 31 March 2004. Figure I shows voluntary contributions to the Fund for the period 1992-2003; figure II shows such contributions for the period 1 January 2000-31 March 2004.

Table 1

Consolidated list of contributions and pledges to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, 1992-2003

(United States dollars)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Total amount pledged</i>	<i>General purpose</i>	<i>Special purpose</i>
Argentina	12 000	12 000	–
Australia	45 000	45 000	–
Austria	3 529 372	753 324	2 776 048
Belgium	45 706	1 873	43 833
Bolivia,	1 000	1 000	–
Brazil	361 478	45 000	316 478
Cambodia	3 000	3 000	–
Canada,	507 392	88 205	419 187
Chile	41 000	41 000	–
China	10 000	10 000	–
Colombia	80 000	80 000	–
Croatia	2 264	2 264	–
Cuba	500	500	–

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Total amount pledged</i>	<i>General purpose</i>	<i>Special purpose</i>
Cyprus	2 500	2 500	–
Czech Republic	144	144	–
Denmark	372 800	–	372 800
France	1 271 690	–	1 271 690
Germany	343 093	3 123	339 970
Greece	90 000	60 000	30 000
Iceland	10 416	10 416	–
India	18 000	18 000	–
Israel	10 500	–	10 500
Italy,	9 768 742	1 849 347	7 919 395
Japan,	1 513 895	68 000	1 445 895
Liechtenstein	28 058	–	28 058
Malta	1 500	1 500	–
Mexico	69 021	–	69 021
Monaco	16 432	–	16 432
Morocco	12 000	12 000	–
Mozambique	33 000	–	33 000
Netherlands	3 341 795	–	3 341 795
Norway	1 026 937	–	1 026 937
Oman	3 000	3 000	–
Panama	1 000	1 000	–
Philippines	1 545	1 545	–
Poland	19 726	–	19 726
Portugal	100 000	–	100 000
Republic of Korea	155 241	155 241	–
Singapore	408	408	–
Slovenia	2 498	2 498	–
Spain	156 576	–	156 576
Sri Lanka	1 000	1 000	–
Sweden	469 763	–	469 763
Switzerland	818 441	–	818 441
Thailand	6 000	6 000	–
Togo	381	381	–
Tunisia	7 297	7 297	–
Turkey	260 015	210 015	50 000
United Kingdom	463 383	–	463 383
United States of America	7 342 695	261 410	7 081 285
Venezuela	13 168	13 168	–
Zimbabwe	605	605	–
European Commission	124 206	–	124 206
Subtotal	32 516 183	3 771 764	28 744 419

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Total amount pledged</i>	<i>General purpose</i>	<i>Special purpose</i>
Public donations			
Asia Crime Prevention Foundation	110 946	–	110 946
FTML in Lebanon	53 675	–	53 675
Others	79 359	19 765	59 594
Subtotal	243 980	19 765	224 215
Total	32 760 163	3 791 529	28 968 634

Table 2
Contributions and pledges to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, 2002-2003
 (United States dollars)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Total amount pledged</i>	<i>General purpose</i>	<i>Special purpose</i>
Austria	1 988 353		1 85
Canada	258 199		
Chile	6 000		
Colombia	80 000		
Croatia	2 264		
Denmark	372 800		
France	306 471		
Germany	339 970		
Greece	30 000		
India	6 000		
Italy	5 658 987		5 34
Japan	154 000		
Liechtenstein	25 000		
Mexico	69 021		
Monaco	16 432		
Morocco	4 000		
Mozambique	33 000		
Netherlands	2 135 425		2 13
Norway	405 243		
Republic of Korea	36 000		
Spain	156 576		
Sweden	435 228		
Switzerland	124 363		124 363 ^a
Tunisia	1 071		–
United Kingdom	301 811		301 811 ^a
United States of America	1 815 670		1 61
Venezuela	5 000		
Public donation	3 752		
Total	14 770 636		14 023 800

^aPaid.

^bPartially paid.

^cPledged.

Table 3
Contributions and pledges to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, 1 January-31 March 2004
 (United States dollars)

<i>Country</i>	<i>Total amount pledged</i>	<i>General purpose</i>	<i>Special purpose</i>
Canada	195 787	–	195 787 ^a
Hungary	69 477	–	69 477 ^a
India	3 000	3 000 ^b	–
Qatar	5 000	5 000 ^a	–
Switzerland	257 363	–	257 363 ^a
Tunisia	1 222	1 222 ^b	–
Turkey	50 000	–	50 000 ^a
Total	581 849	9 222	572 627

^aPaid.

^bPledged.

Figure I
Contributions and pledges to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, 1992-2003
 (United States dollars)

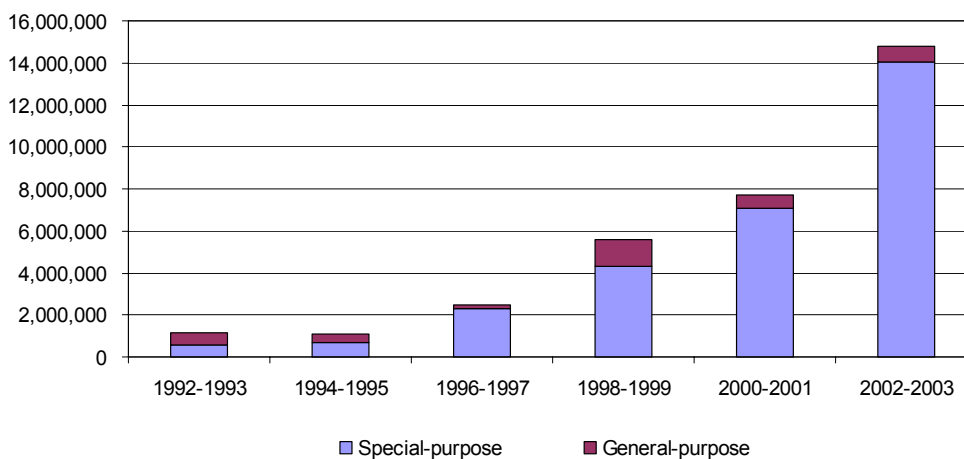
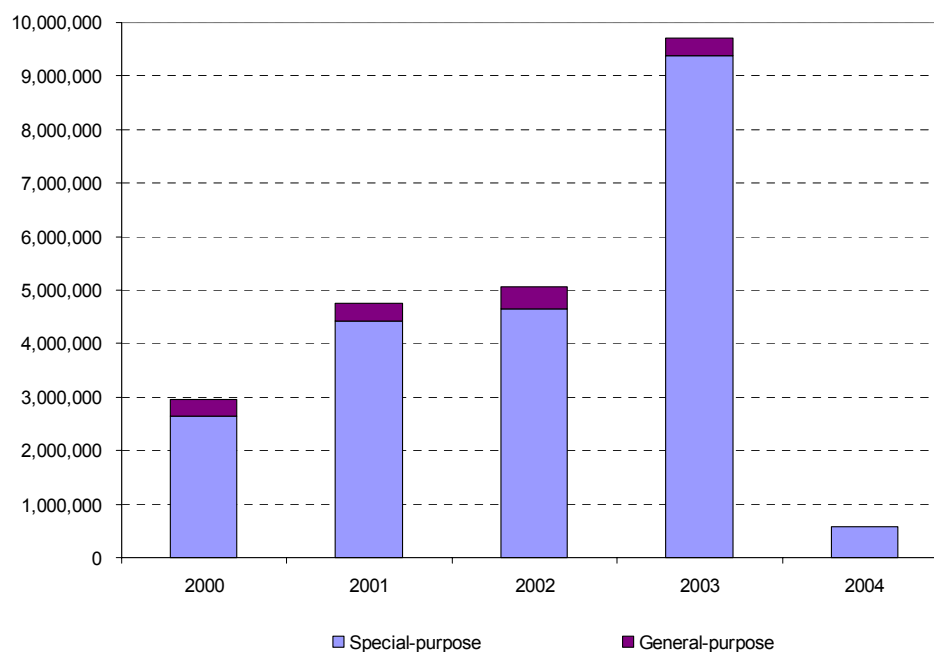


Figure II
Contributions and pledges to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, 1 January 2000-31 March 2004

(United States dollars)



D. Associate experts

36. In addition to voluntary funds, several countries have made in-kind contributions in support of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme. Such in-kind contributions have included the provision of junior professional officers (currently designated as associate experts). Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea and Sweden have financed associate experts who have served or are currently serving with the Programme.

IV. Matters calling for action by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

37. Pursuant to the request contained in General Assembly resolution 57/270 B and on the basis of relevant information provided in the present report, the Commission may wish to examine its methods of work and consider any necessary modifications. In doing so, the Commission may wish to keep in sharp focus its mandated functions of being the principal policy-making body of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice and the preparatory body for the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice. Furthermore,

the Commission may wish to take into account the experience gained from its significant accomplishments of mustering the consensus necessary for launching the successful negotiations on two new conventions. The Commission may also wish to consider building into its work programme the identification of emerging areas of concern to the international community in which policy formulation and guidance may be necessary.

38. With respect to its working methods, among other things, the Commission may wish to consider the following:

(a) *Reviewing and, as relevant, reaffirming its practice of recommending priority themes for its annual sessions and considering further modalities for strengthening the outcome of that discussion by linking them to concrete policy guidance.* One possible way to do that would be to establish as a practice the holding of focused and interactive expert panel discussions or high-level round tables, as part of the consideration of priority themes. Guidelines could also be formulated regarding their composition and other organizational details;

(b) *In view of the shortened ninth session of the Commission held in 2000, immediately following the Tenth Congress, holding a shortened fourteenth session of the Commission in 2005, immediately following the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Bangkok, from 18 to 25 April 2005, devoted to reviewing the outcome of the Eleventh Congress and its follow-up.* Preliminary discussions with the authorities of the Government of Thailand indicated the readiness of the Government to consider offering to host the session in Bangkok;

(c) *Proposing ways to strengthen the participation and contributions of the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network to the work of the Commission in general and the discussion on the priority themes in particular, as well as ways to enhance policy guidance provided by the Commission to those institutes.* To that end, the Commission may also wish to consider the information contained in the report of the Secretary-General on activities of the institutes comprising the Programme network (E/CN.15/2004/4);

(d) *Examining means of strengthening further its intersessional work.* In particular, special attention is required during the intersessional period between the thirteenth and fourteenth sessions of the Commission regarding the preparation of a draft declaration to be considered by the Eleventh Congress, taking into account the outcome of the regional preparatory meetings for the Eleventh Congress, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 56/119 of 19 December 2001, 57/171 of 18 December 2002 and 58/138 of 22 December 2003;

(e) *Keeping under regular review the number of reports to be submitted to the Commission at each of its sessions, with a view to enabling it to give adequate consideration to them while allowing sufficient time for Member States to provide the required input and for the Secretariat to prepare them.* To that end, the Commission may wish to critically examine the required documentation when it approves, at each of its sessions, the draft provisional agenda for its subsequent session;

(f) *Ways of expanding and strengthening its role in resource mobilization.* As indicated in paragraphs 18 and 19 above, the implementation rate of the

Programme is well above 100 per cent: 138 per cent for the biennium 2000-2001 and 142 per cent for the biennium 2002-2003, when considering implemented output in relation to output programmed at the beginning of the biennium. Whereas the increasing implementation rate indicates a high level of efficiency, it also demonstrates that compliance with the mandates has been possible only by excessively stretching available limited resources. It is doubtful whether that practice can continue for much longer without incurring unacceptable risks regarding the ability to deliver and the quality of the final products and services to be delivered. Therefore, the Commission may wish to consider ways of engaging in concerted efforts to address the resource requirements for the implementation of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, taking into account the inevitable need to address the disparity between the human and financial resources available and the growing mandates, especially those pertaining to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto. Those new mandates represent a quantum leap for the Programme in terms of the output to be delivered, encompassing the complex tasks of servicing the Conferences 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 and promoting the ratification of, accession to and implementation of the provisions of the Conventions, as well as supporting national capacity-building and facilitating related international cooperation and technical assistance;

(g) *Identifying measures to strengthen its role as the preparatory body for the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice and for ensuring proper follow-up to the outcome of the congresses.* To that end, the Commission may wish to draw on its experience in connection with the follow-up work to the Tenth Congress;

(h) *Encouraging and seeking more active participation and involvement in its work by the United Nations funds and programmes, other entities of the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions.* In this regard, the Commission may wish to take into account the relevant aspects of the work of the United Nations Chief Executive Board for Coordination, during its meeting in April 2004, described in paragraph 27 above, and the note prepared for that meeting, entitled “Organized crime and corruption are threats to security and development: the role of the United Nations system”, which will be made available to the Commission.

Notes

¹ See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10-17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 and corrigendum (A/57/6/Rev.1 and Corr.1).*

³ The approved programme budget will subsequently be issued in final form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/58/6/Rev.1).*