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Agenda item 106

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 18 December 2019

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/74/400)*]

- 74/171. Follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**

The General Assembly,

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

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

Recognizing the significant contributions of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice in promoting the exchange of experience in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Recalling its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in which it stipulated the guidelines in accordance with which, beginning in 2005, the congresses, pursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30 of



the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme,¹ should be held,

Recalling also its resolution [70/174](#) of 17 December 2015 and its resolutions [71/206](#) of 19 December 2016, [72/192](#) of 19 December 2017 and [73/184](#) of 17 December 2018 on the follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Recalling further, in particular, that in its resolution [73/184](#) it decided to hold the Fourteenth Congress in Kyoto, Japan, from 20 to 27 April 2020, with pre-Congress consultations to be held on 19 April 2020,

Mindful that in its resolution [73/184](#) it decided that the high-level segment of the Fourteenth Congress would be held during the first two days of the Congress in order to allow Heads of State or Government and government ministers to focus on the main theme of the Congress² and to enhance the possibility of generating useful feedback,

Mindful also that in its resolution [73/184](#) it decided that, in accordance with its resolution [56/119](#), the Fourteenth Congress would adopt a single declaration, to be submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for its consideration,

Recognizing the efforts made by the Government of Japan to ensure an effective preparatory process for the Fourteenth Congress,

Noting with appreciation the holding of the European Regional Preparatory Meeting for the first time since 1995,

Welcoming with appreciation the decision of the Government of Japan, building upon the initiative taken by the host country of the Thirteenth Congress, to organize the Youth Forum, which is to precede the Fourteenth Congress,

1. *Invites* Governments to consider taking into account the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation³ when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make all efforts, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein, in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Invites* Governments and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to inform the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice about their activities aimed at the implementation of the Doha Declaration with a view to providing guidance on the formulation of legislation, policies and programmes in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice at the national and international levels, and to that end requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the subject, to be submitted to the Fourteenth Congress for its consideration;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made thus far in the preparations for the Fourteenth Congress;

¹ Resolution [46/152](#), annex.

² “Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda”.

³ Resolution [70/174](#), annex.

4. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in following up on the implementation of the Doha Declaration;
5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁴
6. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the discussion guide prepared by the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, for the regional preparatory meetings and for the Fourteenth Congress;⁵
7. *Welcomes* the regional preparatory meetings, which were held in all five regions and at which the overall theme of the Fourteenth Congress was examined, together with the substantive items on the agenda and the workshop topics, and takes note of the outcomes, to be taken into account during the preparations for and the deliberations of the Congress;
8. *Invites* Member States to consider, as part of the overall theme and substantive agenda items to be discussed at the Fourteenth Congress, focusing on the work of practitioners, to prioritize strengthening international cooperation and capacity-building and to highlight public-private partnership in efforts related to crime prevention, criminal justice and enhancing the rule of law;
9. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in accordance with its resolution 73/184, to begin to prepare, at intersessional meetings to be held well in advance of the Fourteenth Congress, a structured, short and concise draft declaration with a robust overarching political message addressing the main topics to be discussed at the Congress, taking into account the outcomes of the regional preparatory meetings, consultations with relevant organizations and entities and the relevant discussions held in preparation for the Congress, as well as the mandate and objectives of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice;
10. *Encourages* Member States to finalize their negotiation of the Kyoto declaration in a timely manner prior to the commencement of the Fourteenth Congress;
11. *Emphasizes* the importance of the workshops to be held during the Fourteenth Congress, and invites Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant entities to provide financial, organizational and technical support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and to the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network for the preparations for the workshops, including the preparation and circulation of relevant background material;
12. *Invites* Member States to include in their delegations panellists and experts who may contribute their substantive expertise to the workshops and thus enable active and meaningful discussions during those workshops;
13. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to facilitate the participation of developing countries in the workshops, and reiterates its encouragement to States, the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, other concerned entities and the Secretary-General to work together in order to ensure that the workshops are well focused and achieve practical results, leading to technical cooperation ideas and projects and documents for enhancing bilateral and multilateral technical assistance activities in crime prevention and criminal justice;

⁴ E/CN.15/2019/11.

⁵ A/CONF.234/PM.1.

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available the resources necessary to ensure the participation of the least developed countries in the Fourteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice;
15. *Encourages* Governments to make preparations for the Fourteenth Congress at an early stage by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, by establishing national preparatory committees, with a view to contributing to a focused and productive discussion on the topics and to participating actively in the organization and conduct of the workshops, by submitting national position papers on the various substantive items of the agenda and by encouraging contributions from the academic community and relevant scientific institutions;
16. *Invites* Member States to send representatives to the Fourteenth Congress of the highest appropriate level, for example Heads of State or Government or government ministers and attorneys general, to make statements in the high-level segment on the theme and substantive items of the Congress and to participate actively in its proceedings by sending legal and policy experts with special training and practical experience in crime prevention and criminal justice;
17. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations participating in the Fourteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice, as well as meetings of professional and geographical interest groups, and to take appropriate measures to encourage the participation of the academic and research community in the Congress;
18. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to encourage the participation of representatives from relevant entities of the United Nations system in the Fourteenth Congress, bearing in mind the main theme, agenda items and workshop topics of the Congress;
19. *Welcomes* the plan for the documentation of the Fourteenth Congress, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the extended Bureau of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;⁶
20. *Also welcomes* the appointment by the Secretary-General of a Secretary-General and an Executive Secretary of the Fourteenth Congress, who will perform their functions under the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice;
21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare an overview of the state of crime and criminal justice worldwide for presentation at the Fourteenth Congress;
22. *Requests* the Commission to give high priority at its twenty-ninth session to considering the declaration of the Fourteenth Congress, with a view to recommending, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate follow-up by the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session;
23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon, through the Commission, to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session.

*50th plenary meeting
18 December 2019*

⁶ E/CN.15/2019/11, sect. II.D.