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Crime prevention and criminal justice

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 16 December 2020

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/75/479, para. 20)*]

75/196. Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

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

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

Recalling the importance of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,⁶

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

² Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

³ Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

⁴ Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

⁵ Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

⁶ Resolution 70/174, annex.



Recalling also its decision 74/550 B of 12 August 2020, in which it decided to hold the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021, with pre-Congress consultations to be held on 6 March 2021,

Recalling further its resolution [72/192](#) of 19 December 2017 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, in which it decided that the theme of the Fourteenth Congress would be “Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda”,

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

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

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

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

Deeply concerned about the growing links, in some cases, between forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, recognizing that countering transnational organized crime and terrorism is a common and shared responsibility, and in this respect recalling Economic and Social Council resolution [2019/21](#) of 23 July 2019 on technical assistance provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime related to counter-terrorism,

Convinced that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing and that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through crime prevention and criminal justice mechanisms, is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth and sustainable development and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and in this respect reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁷ which, *inter alia*, includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and in this respect recalling its resolution [70/299](#) of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level,

Expressing concern about the unprecedented crisis caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, which is reversing hard-won sustainable development

⁷ Resolution [70/1](#).

gains and may increase the risks of corruption, terrorism, transnational organized crime, fraud, financial crime, illegal trafficking, including trafficking in persons, and other criminal activities, and welcoming the contributions of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant agencies to the sharing of good practices in crisis response and recovery in this context,

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

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

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

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

Reaffirming its commitment and strong political will in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them, encouraging the effective participation and inclusion of all sectors of society, thus creating the conditions needed to advance the wider United Nations agenda, and recognizing the responsibility of Member States to uphold human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular for those affected by crime and those who may be in contact with the criminal justice system, including vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and to prevent and counter hate crimes, as well as crimes motivated by intolerance or discrimination of any kind,

Taking note of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 25/2 of 27 May 2016 on promoting legal aid, including through a network of legal aid providers,⁸ in which the Commission encouraged Member States to adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures to ensure that effective legal aid, including for victims of crime, is provided consistent with their domestic legislation and in line with the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,⁹ and which also contributes to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

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

Deeply concerned about the negative impact of corruption on development and on the enjoyment of human rights, and recognizing the universal importance of good governance, transparency, integrity and accountability, thus calling for a zero-

⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 10 (E/2016/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

⁹ Resolution [67/187](#), annex.

tolerance approach to corruption and more effective measures to prevent and counter corruption in all its forms, including bribery, as well as measures to prevent the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of crime,

Bearing in mind its resolution 73/190 of 17 December 2018 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Welcoming the progress made with regard to the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and stressing the importance of full participation by States parties in the Mechanism and the effective implementation of the Convention in all its aspects by all States parties, and further taking note with appreciation of the work carried out during the preparatory phase of the review process of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group,

Welcoming also decision 8/1 of 20 December 2019 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to extend the duration of the second cycle of the Implementation Review Mechanism until June 2024,¹⁰

Taking note of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Development Programme *Manual on Corruption Surveys* and the development of methodological tools, standards and guidelines that can support countries in producing comparable and up-to-date statistics on corruption, including in the context of Sustainable Development Goal implementation, and welcoming in this regard resolution 8/10 of 20 December 2019 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,¹¹

Bearing in mind that, pursuant to chapter V of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the return of assets is one of the main objectives, an integral part and a fundamental principle of the Convention and that the States parties to the Convention shall afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance in that regard, and welcoming in this regard resolution 8/1 of 20 December 2019 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,¹²

Recognizing that, thanks to their nearly universal adherence and wide scope of application, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹³ and the United Nations Convention against Corruption offer fundamental legal bases for international cooperation to support the investigation and prosecution of crimes covered by those Conventions, including for extradition, mutual legal assistance and confiscation and asset recovery, and that they provide effective mechanisms that should be further implemented and utilized in practice,

Reaffirming its resolution 73/191 of 17 December 2018, in which it decided to convene in the first half of 2021 a special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation, and to adopt a concise and action-oriented political declaration agreed upon in advance, by consensus, through intergovernmental

¹⁰ See CAC/COSP/2019/17, sect. I.C.

¹¹ Ibid., sect. I.B.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

negotiations under the auspices of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and invited the Conference of the States Parties to lead the preparatory process for the special session by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner,

Reaffirming also its resolution 74/276 of 1 June 2020 on the special session of the General Assembly against corruption and its decision 74/568 of 31 August 2020, in which it decided to convene the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation from 2 to 4 June 2021,

Recognizing the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and the national levels, taking note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the communiqué of the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Osaka, Japan, on 28 and 29 June 2019, and urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage other States Members of the United Nations and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system,

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

Welcoming the high-level debate of the General Assembly held on 6 June 2019 on the theme “The role of regional organizations in strengthening and implementing crime prevention initiatives and criminal justice responses”, and taking note of the summary of the discussion prepared by the President of the General Assembly and transmitted to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and to all Member States,

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

Reaffirming the commitments made by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,¹⁴ and its successive biennial reviews, in particular in its resolution 72/284 of 26 June 2018, in which it encouraged Member States and United Nations entities to strengthen and better coordinate their actions against terrorism and to prevent and combat violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, including through technical assistance provided to Member States upon their request, and highlighting in this respect the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, established through its resolution 71/291 of 15 June 2017, and that of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities on strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,

¹⁴ Resolution 60/288.

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

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

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

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

Taking into consideration all resolutions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, in particular those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation, as well as to the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance to Member States in improving systems for collecting and analysing data on crime prevention and criminal justice at all levels,

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

Recognizing the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and technical assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice reform, data and information analysis, preventing and countering organized crime, corruption, piracy and transnational organized crime committed at sea, illicit financial flows, money-laundering, economic and financial crimes, including fraud, as well as tax and corporate crimes, cybercrime, criminal misuse of the Internet and other information

and communications technologies as well as such misuse for terrorist purposes, trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora and other crimes that affect the environment, such as trafficking in timber, precious metals, stones and other minerals, direct and indirect trade in oil and refined oil products with organized criminal and terrorist groups, counterfeiting in trademark goods, match-fixing, trafficking in cultural property and artefacts, kidnapping, smuggling of migrants, organ trafficking, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, drug trafficking and trafficking in falsified medical products, as well as terrorism, including progress in tackling the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, including those who are returning and relocating, and preventing chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism, as well as in the area of international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance and the international transfer of sentenced persons,

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of a regional approach to programming, based on continuing consultations and partnerships at the national and regional levels, particularly on its implementation, and focused on ensuring that the Office responds in a sustainable and coherent manner to the priorities of Member States,

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

Welcoming Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/3 of 26 May 2017 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes and into efforts to prevent and combat transnational organized crime,¹⁵

Reiterating its condemnation of all forms of violence against women and girls, noting with deep concern the increase in cases of violence against women and girls and in obstacles to their access to justice during the COVID-19 pandemic, and in this respect reaffirming its resolutions [71/170](#) of 19 December 2016, [72/149](#) of 19 December 2017 and [73/148](#) of 17 December 2018, recalling the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council addressing various aspects of violence against women and girls of all ages, and recalling also the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-seventh session, which addressed the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls,¹⁶

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

Noting the significance of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice¹⁷ as a way to assist countries in strengthening their national crime prevention and criminal justice capacities to respond to all forms of violence against women and girls,

¹⁵ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 10 (E/2017/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

¹⁶ Ibid., 2013, *Supplement No. 7 (E/2013/27)*, chap. I, sect. A.

¹⁷ Resolution [69/194](#), annex.

Recalling its resolution [69/194](#) of 18 December 2014, by which it adopted the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, convinced of the importance of preventing youth crime, including through sports, supporting the rehabilitation of young offenders and their reintegration into society, protecting in particular child victims of all forms of violence, including those in contact with the law and witnesses, including efforts to prevent their revictimization, and addressing the needs of children of prisoners, stressing that such responses should take into account the human rights and best interests of children and young people, consistent with the obligations of the States parties under relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child¹⁸ and the Optional Protocols thereto,¹⁹ and noting other relevant United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice, where appropriate,

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

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

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

Stressing the importance of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials²⁰ and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials,²¹ which are voluntary guidelines that emphasize, *inter alia*, efficient and human rights-based policing,

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

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

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

¹⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

¹⁹ Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution [66/138](#), annex.

²⁰ Resolution [34/169](#), annex.

²¹ See *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, which constitutes a serious crime and a grave offence to human dignity and physical integrity, a violation or abuse of human rights and a challenge to sustainable development and requires the implementation of a comprehensive approach that includes measures to prevent such trafficking, to punish the traffickers and to identify and protect the victims of such trafficking, and a robust criminal justice response, and recalling in this respect the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,²² and its resolutions 71/167 of 19 December 2016, 72/195 of 19 December 2017 and 73/146 of 17 December 2018,

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

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

Underlining that Member States need to recognize that the crime of smuggling of migrants and the crime of trafficking in persons are distinct crimes and require separate and complementary legal, operational and policy responses, while recognizing that smuggled migrants might also become victims of trafficking in persons and therefore require appropriate protection and assistance, and recalling its resolutions 69/187 of 18 December 2014, 70/147 of 17 December 2015, 72/179 of 19 December 2017 and 74/148 of 18 December 2019, in which it called upon all Member States to protect and assist migrants, including migrant children and adolescents, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2014/23 of 16 July 2014 and 2015/23 of 21 July 2015,

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

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

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

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

Concerned at the growing involvement of terrorist and organized criminal groups in all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and alarmed by the destruction of cultural heritage perpetrated recently by terrorist

²² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

groups, which is linked to trafficking in cultural property in some countries and to financing of terrorist activities,

Recognizing the indispensable role of crime prevention and criminal justice responses in combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences in a comprehensive and effective manner, and underlining the importance of the technical assistance provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime aimed at supporting the implementation of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences²³ and at facilitating operational cooperation against all forms of trafficking in cultural property, including through the practical assistance tool developed to that end,

Welcoming resolution 27/5 of 18 May 2018 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,²⁴ which focused on the need to strengthen international cooperation to prevent and counter trafficking in cultural property, including through judicial cooperation and mutual legal assistance, and noting the efforts of Member States to implement General Assembly resolutions [68/186](#) of 18 December 2013, [69/196](#) of 18 December 2014 and [73/130](#) of 13 December 2018,

Affirming that the destruction of cultural heritage, which is representative of the diversity of human culture, erases the collective memories of a nation, destabilizes communities and threatens their cultural identity, and emphasizing the importance of cultural diversity and pluralism as well as freedom of religion and belief for achieving peace, stability, reconciliation and social cohesion, and recalling in this respect its resolution [73/130](#),

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

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

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

Recognizing, in this respect, the legal framework provided by and the important role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora²⁵ as the primary mechanism for regulating international trade in species of wild fauna and flora listed in its appendices,

Recalling the adoption of its resolutions [71/326](#) of 11 September 2017 and [73/343](#) of 16 September 2019 on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, and welcoming Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 28/3 of 24 May

²³ Resolution [69/196](#), annex.

²⁴ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council*, 2018, Supplement No. 10 ([E/2018/30](#)), chap. I, sect. C.

²⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

2019,²⁶ and resolution 8/12 of 20 December 2019 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,²⁷

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

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

Welcoming, in this respect, Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/4 of 26 May 2017 on strengthening international cooperation to combat cybercrime, in which the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime was requested to continue its work and exchange of information on national legislation, best practices, technical assistance and international cooperation with a view to examining options to strengthen existing responses and propose new national and international legal or other responses to cybercrime, and was encouraged to develop possible conclusions and recommendations for submission to the Commission,

Concerned at the serious challenges and threats posed by illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and about its links with other forms of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking, as well as terrorism,

Noting international efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms, in particular in small arms and light weapons, as demonstrated by the adoption in 2001 of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,²⁸ the entry into force in 2005 of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,²⁹ and the entry into force in 2014 of the Arms Trade Treaty,³⁰

Welcoming the 2019 Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem,³¹ adopted during the ministerial segment of the sixty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in which Member States committed to accelerating, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility, the full implementation of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,³² the Joint

²⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council*, 2019, Supplement No. 10 ([E/2019/30](#)), chap. I, sect. D.

²⁷ See [CAC/COSP/2019/17](#), sect. I.B.

²⁸ *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects*, New York, 9–20 July 2001 ([A/CONF.192/15](#)), chap. IV, para. 24.

²⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

³⁰ See resolution [67/234](#) B.

³¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council*, 2019, Supplement No. 8 ([E/2019/28](#)), chap. I, sect. B.

³² *Ibid.*, 2009, Supplement No. 8 ([E/2009/28](#)), chap. I, sect. C.

Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action³³ and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016,³⁴ aimed at achieving all commitments, operational recommendations and aspirational goals set out therein,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to resolution [74/177](#);³⁵

2. *Reaffirms* its resolution [70/1](#), entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which, *inter alia*, includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States, when appropriate, to take into consideration the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted at the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015, when formulating legislation and policy directives, and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States, including through its Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration and the Education for Justice initiative;

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

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

6. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto represent the most important tools of the international community for fighting transnational organized crime, including cybercrime, and notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 190, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating transnational organized crime, and welcomes the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention by its resolution [55/25](#) of 15 November 2000 and of the opening of the Convention for signature by Member States at a high-

³³ Ibid., 2014, *Supplement No. 8* ([E/2014/28](#)), chap. I, sect. C.

³⁴ Resolution [S-30/1](#), annex.

³⁵ [A/75/125](#).

level political conference convened for that purpose in Palermo, Italy, from 12 to 15 December 2000;

7. *Welcomes* the launch of the review process of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, at the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in Vienna from 12 to 16 October 2020, and urges States parties to actively participate in and support the review process;

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

9. *Welcomes* the decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its eighth and ninth sessions, held in Vienna from 17 to 21 October 2016 and from 15 to 19 October 2018, respectively, to promote greater use of the Convention by central authorities in extradition and mutual legal assistance and to enhance the effectiveness of these authorities and to strengthen, as appropriate, the implementation of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

10. *Urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to continue to provide full support to the review mechanism adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, notes the progress made under the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention, and further notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 187, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating corruption and related crimes;

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

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

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

14. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, including, *inter alia*, in the field of international cooperation in criminal matters, to strengthen the rule of law, also

taking into account the work undertaken by other United Nations entities, within existing mandates, as well as regional and bilateral efforts, and to continue to ensure coordination and coherence, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group;

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

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

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

18. *Recommends* that Member States adopt multisectoral crime prevention policies and programmes for youth, including through sport and education, taking into consideration their varying needs, and safeguard their well-being, recognizing that youth may face specific challenges and risk factors that make them particularly vulnerable to crime, all forms of violence, terrorism and victimization, and in this respect recalls its resolution [74/170](#) of 18 December 2019, entitled “Integrating sport into youth crime prevention and criminal justice strategies”;

19. *Notes* the impossibility of holding the high-level debate on the theme “Urban safety, security and good governance: making crime prevention a priority for all” during the seventy-fourth session as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and invites the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and with the involvement of relevant stakeholders, to hold, within existing resources, the high-level debate during the seventy-fifth session and to prepare a summary of the discussion for transmission to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to all Member States;

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

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

22. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

31. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization, and requests the Secretary-General, also considering the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office, to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

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

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

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

35. *Calls upon* Member States to implement, when appropriate, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),³⁶ bearing in mind their spirit and purpose, and to intensify their efforts to address the challenge of prison overcrowding through appropriate criminal justice reforms, which should include, where appropriate, a review of penal policies and practical measures to reduce pretrial detention, to enhance the use of non-custodial sanctions and measures and to improve access to legal aid to the extent possible, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, in this respect;

36. *Invites* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into their criminal justice systems, including by the use of non-custodial measures for women, when appropriate, and by improving the treatment of women prisoners, taking into consideration the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),³⁷ and by developing and implementing national strategies and plans to promote the full protection of women and girls from all acts of violence and to strengthen the crime prevention and criminal justice response to the gender-related killing of women and girls, in particular by taking measures to support the practical capacity of Member States to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of such crime, and welcomes in this respect the practical tools recommended by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on gender-related killing of women and girls at its meeting held in Bangkok from 11 to 13 November 2014;³⁸

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

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

³⁶ Resolution [70/175](#), annex.

³⁷ Resolution [65/229](#), annex.

³⁸ See [E/CN.15/2015/16](#).

39. *Calls upon* Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to, and for States parties to effectively implement, the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,³⁹ to reinforce international cooperation for preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants and for the prosecution of smugglers, in accordance, as appropriate, with article 6 of the Protocol and with national laws and legislation, while effectively protecting the rights and respecting the dignity of smuggled migrants, consistent with the principles of non-discrimination and other applicable obligations under relevant international law, taking into account the special needs of women, children, especially when unaccompanied, and persons with disabilities and older persons, and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its technical assistance to Member States in accordance with the Protocol;

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

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

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

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

³⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, and invites Member States to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with appropriate resources for its mandate;

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

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

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

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

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

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

50. *Also urges* Member States to take decisive steps at the national level to prevent, combat and eradicate the illegal trade in wildlife, on both the supply and demand sides, including by strengthening the legislation necessary for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of such illegal trade, as well as by strengthening enforcement and criminal justice responses, in accordance with national legislation

and international law, acknowledging that the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime can provide valuable technical assistance in this regard;

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

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

53. *Encourages* Member States to continue to support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing targeted technical assistance, within its existing mandate, to enhance the capacity of affected States, upon their request, to combat piracy and other forms of crime committed at sea, including by assisting Member States in creating an effective law enforcement response and strengthening their judicial capacity;

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

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

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

57. *Urges* Member States to exchange good practices and experiences of practitioners who are involved in combating illicit trafficking in firearms and to consider the use of available tools, including marking and record-keeping technologies, to facilitate the tracing of firearms and, where possible, their parts and

components and ammunition, in order to enhance criminal investigations into illicit trafficking in firearms;

58. *Urges States parties to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition that import and export parts and components of firearms to reinforce their control measures in line with the Protocol and other relevant international legal instruments to which they are party, with a view to preventing and reducing the risks of their diversion, illicit manufacturing and trafficking, and takes note of the first United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime *Global Study on Firearms Trafficking*;*

59. *Welcomes the results of the seventh meeting of the Working Group on Firearms, held in Vienna from 16 to 17 July 2020, and invites States parties to take measures, as appropriate and consistent with their domestic laws, to implement the recommendations and discussion points resulting from the Working Group meetings, in order to contribute to strengthening international cooperation against firearms-related crimes;*

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

61. *Recommends that Member States, as appropriate to their national contexts, adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on baseline assessments, regular data collection and analysis, and focusing on all sectors of the justice system, and develop crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes, including ones that focus on early prevention by using multidisciplinary and participatory approaches, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States for this purpose;*

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

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

64. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to ensure the diffusion, use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals, handbooks and capacity-building material developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

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

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

*46th plenary meeting
16 December 2020*
