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**International cooperation in combating transnational
crime**

Measures against organized crime

Statement submitted by the International Police Association **

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996.

* E/CN.7/2005/1.

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Primarily all over the world the phenomena of (transnational) organized crime was combated by the traditional instruments used in the different countries. In Europe international cooperation in combating organized crime is especially difficult because of the variety of laws, penal codes and penal procedure codes. Starting to combat organized crime the first problem was to accept, that organized crime is a problem. For many decades the existence of organized crime was denied. The second problem is the sovereignty of the countries. International Police cooperation is limited by the fundamental principle of the constitutions of the states. Individualism always was the strength and the weakness of Europe. In the meantime there is a big progress on this field in Europe. Even now at the age of the growing European Community, individualism of some members of the EC creates problems. Beside organized measures, technical measures improved the possibilities of the executive forces to combat crime, especially organized crime. The development of technologies is an enormous support in combating organized crime. Computer technologies help to analyze crime structures, records of persons and enterprises. Computer analysis are based on assimilation of historical informations, review of case files, review of related court documents, examination of public documents. Beside the intensive analysis methods, consensual monitoring, physical surveillance, electronic surveillance and wire tapping are technical possibilities to combat organized crime. All this new methods needs a "modern educated police officer", more technocrat than investigator in the traditional way. Of course interviews and interrogations are still very important, but to fight organized crime need modern concepts, strategies and techniques. Therefore education is the most important issue for policing. Hand in hand with this a new profile of police officer is necessary. In all European countries new law was discussed earnestly. In the European Community new forms of police cooperation are developed. One of the principle ideas was to found the EUROPOL. The Europol shall be a special instrument to fight the main problem of transnational organized crime and drug trafficking too. Europol is working very effective and succesful on this fields. Not to forget many very succesful activities done by UN-Bodies in cooperation with UN-COMMISSIONS in the field of transnational organized crime, terrorism, corruption, drugs, trafficking of human beings etc.