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Draft report

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Addendum

Integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice

1. At its 5th, 6th and 7th meetings, on 25 and 26 April 2012, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered agenda item 5, which read as follows:

“Integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice:

“(a) Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;

“(b) Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

“(c) Ratification and implementation of the international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism;

“(d) Other crime prevention and criminal justice matters;

“(e) Other activities in support of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, non-governmental organizations and other bodies.”



2. For its consideration of agenda item 5, the Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (E/CN.15/2012/7)

(b) Note verbale forwarding the report on the Fourth World Summit of Attorneys General, Prosecutors General and Chief Prosecutors (E/CN.15/2012/8)

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in combating transnational organized crime and corruption (E/CN.15/2012/9)

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance in implementing the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism (E/CN.15/2012/10)

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network (E/CN.15/2012/11)

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against women (E/CN.15/2012/13)

(g) Report of the Executive Director on international cooperation in the forensic field (E/CN.15/2012/14).

3. Introductory statements were made by the Chief of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch, the Chief of the Implementation Support Section of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch, the Chief of the Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, the Chief of the Terrorism Prevention Branch, the Chief of the Laboratory and Scientific Section and the Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs. Statements were also made by the observer for Denmark (on behalf of the Presidency and States members of the European Union) and the representatives of Croatia, Thailand, Algeria, Canada, Belarus, Argentina, Ukraine, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Austria, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Cuba, the United States of America, Germany, Mauritius and China. The observers for France, Libya, Costa Rica, Romania, Mongolia, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Sri Lanka, Azerbaijan, Indonesia, Qatar and the Sudan also made statements. The observer for the Holy See made a statement. Statements were also made by the observers for the League of Arab States and the Global Alliance against Traffic in Women.

A. Deliberations

1. Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

4. Discussions under agenda item 5 (a) covered, inter alia, the following topics: the importance of universal ratification and implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto; ongoing negotiations on the establishment of a mechanism to review implementation of the Convention and its Protocols; the

importance of supporting the effective implementation of the Protocols, including in the framework of the working groups of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; and the use of the Convention as a basis for international judicial cooperation. The United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, including the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the global report on trafficking in persons, was also mentioned.

5. Speakers emphasized the importance of establishing a strong, effective and cost-effective review mechanism that would both enable the identification of technical assistance needs and highlight achievements. It was noted that the terms of reference for the review mechanism remained to be finalized at the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties.

6. The need to address new and emerging forms of transnational organized crime, including fraudulent medicines, cybercrime, trafficking in cultural property and maritime piracy, was highlighted. Speakers expressed particular concerns regarding the spread of fraudulent medicines and expressed their commitment to combat such crime, including through regional legislative frameworks and cooperation. Furthermore, support was expressed for the strengthened cooperation between UNODC and the World Tourism Organization, and the resulting memorandum of understanding between the two bodies was applauded.

7. The need to continue promoting multidisciplinary and collaborative approaches and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels was noted. The high added value of technical tools and activities was stressed.

2. Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

8. The United Nations Convention against Corruption was recognized as the global framework for the fight against corruption. Speakers welcomed the increase in the number of States parties to the Convention and called for its full implementation.

9. Speakers welcomed the resolutions adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at its fourth session, held in Marrakech, Morocco, in October 2011. They expressed satisfaction with the participation of their countries in the first and second years of the first cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in their capacity as States under review or as reviewing States. Speakers reported on positive experiences during the self-assessment stage and during exchanges in the context of direct dialogue. Some speakers highlighted the role of civil society in the work of the Mechanism.

10. The need for technical assistance for the implementation of the Convention was highlighted. Speakers referred to technical assistance provided by UNODC, including the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative, jointly operated with the World

Bank, as well as technical assistance provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and others. The need to address technical assistance needs identified through the review process was stressed, and donors were called upon to continue providing support and to coordinate in order to optimize the use of resources. Attention was drawn to international and regional coordination networks to enhance cooperation in criminal matters, including that of the League of Arab States and such networks in Latin America. Several speakers acknowledged the potential role of the International Anti-Corruption Academy for specialized multidisciplinary training and capacity-building. One speaker referred to the work undertaken in the context of the Group of 20 anti-corruption working group, the "Business-20" anti-corruption task force, and the Open Government Initiative.

11. Many speakers reported on domestic efforts made to implement the Convention, including by adopting or amending legislation and by creating and strengthening specialized institutions. Examples included legislation on asset declarations for public officials and the establishment of a central registry to administer seized and confiscated proceeds of crime. One speaker reported that his country had adopted the concept of social damage caused by corruption and compensation for such damage. Several speakers stressed the importance of awareness-raising and education campaigns, as well as the involvement of civil society, the private sector and the media.

3. Ratification and implementation of the international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism

12. Speakers reiterated that international terrorism continued to constitute one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and underscored their countries' strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Specific concern was expressed regarding the financing of terrorism, including ransom payments to terrorist groups engaging in hostage-taking.

13. Various speakers emphasized the transnational, complex, ever-changing and adaptable nature of terrorism and stressed the need for concerted efforts by the international community to prevent and combat terrorism. Speakers highlighted the central role that the United Nations should continue to play in supporting Member States in those efforts, including in the framework of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

14. Speakers encouraged UNODC to continue providing legal and capacity-building assistance to Member States with the aim of strengthening national criminal justice systems to counter terrorism. Support was expressed for continued work on specialized thematic areas such as countering the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes and the financing of terrorism. UNODC was invited to continue strengthening its cross-cutting and integrated approach in the delivery of technical assistance.

15. A number of speakers highlighted the importance of UNODC further strengthening its cooperation with the entities participating in the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, as well as with relevant regional and subregional organizations.

4. Other crime prevention and criminal justice matters

16. Speakers welcomed the efforts made by UNODC and the International Forensic Strategic Alliance in fostering international cooperation on strategic issues related to the management of forensic science laboratories and in promoting the effective exchange of forensic science expertise worldwide. Support was expressed for the work of UNODC in the development of scientific and forensic services in general, and, specifically, in the area of forensic document examination.

17. Reference was made to the 2011 Seoul Declaration on “New Initiatives of the Prosecution Service — Fair and Just Society”, and the importance of strong international cooperation among prosecution services was highlighted.

18. Several speakers referred to the problem of maritime piracy, in particular off the coast of Somalia, which posed a threat to different regions and the international community at large. A comprehensive approach was required to address the root causes, strengthen the capacity of the States concerned and enhance international cooperation in order to effectively prosecute and punish pirates.

19. The work of UNODC in supporting such efforts to counter-piracy was welcomed, in particular its efforts in assisting countries to enhance the capacity of their judiciary, prosecution and prison services. UNODC was invited to continue its efforts and coordinate with other bodies such as UNDP and the International Maritime Organization. In particular, UNODC was asked to take action to address the lack of adequate rules and legal frameworks for monitoring the use of force by civilian private armed guards on board commercial vessels.

5. Other activities in support of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, non-governmental organizations and other bodies

20. Further clarification was provided regarding the role of the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network and their contribution to assisting the international community in strengthening cooperation in crucial areas of crime prevention and criminal justice at the global, regional and subregional levels. Several speakers expressed appreciation for the work of the programme network and noted that UNODC and the institutes, including among themselves, should maintain a dialogue to avoid duplication of efforts.
