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CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Francis AGUILAR-HECHT (Guatemala)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1986, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-first session the item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice: report of the Secretary-General" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.
2. The Third Committee considered the item jointly with items 85, 86, 87 and 90 at its 16th to 22nd, 27th and 32nd meetings, on 16, 17, 20 to 22, 29 and 31 October. An account of the discussion of the Committee is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/41/SR.16-22, 27 and 32).
3. The Committee had before it the following documentation:
 - (a) Report of the Economic and Social Council for the year 1986, chapter V, section D (A/41/3); 1/
 - (b) Crime prevention and criminal justice: report of the Secretary-General (A/41/618);

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/41/3).

(c) Letter dated 21 May 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the declaration and statement issued at the Tokyo Economic Summit, held from 4 to 6 May 1986 by the Heads of State of seven major industrial nations and the representatives of the European Community (A/41/354).

4. At the 16th meeting, on 16 October, the Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs and the Director of the Social Development Division of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs made introductory statements (see A/C.3/41/SR.16).

5. At the 32nd meeting, on 31 October, the Officer-in-Charge of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs made a concluding statement (see A/C.3/41/SR.32).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.27

6. At the 27th meeting, on 29 October, the representative of Italy introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/41/L.27) entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice", sponsored by Australia, Canada, Colombia, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Italy, Morocco, Senegal, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia, subsequently joined by Bolivia, Indonesia, Jamaica, Nepal, the Philippines, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zambia.

7. At the 32nd meeting, on 31 October, the representative of Italy, on behalf of the sponsors, orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) Operative paragraph 2 was replaced by the following:

"2. Urges Member States and the Secretary-General to make every effort to translate into action, as appropriate, the respective recommendations, policies and conclusions stemming from the Milan Plan of Action and other relevant resolutions and recommendations adopted unanimously by the Seventh Congress and to ensure that they are adequately followed up";

(b) In operative paragraph 5, after the words "to ensure timely", the words "organizational and substantive" were deleted;

(c) In operative paragraph 6, the words "In the performance of his duties", were inserted between the words "Invites Member States and the Secretary-General", and the words "in implementing the results of the Seventh Congress". After the words "priority attention to the", the word "serious" was deleted.

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/41/L.27, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 9).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

9. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Crime prevention and criminal justice

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the need for concerted and systematic efforts by the international community towards more effective crime prevention and criminal justice strategies and policies and in particular for co-ordinated practical action to give effect to the conclusions and recommendations of the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, 2/

Recognizing the pivotal role of the United Nations, through its programme activities and Congresses on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, in promoting the exchange of expertise and experience and closer international co-operation in this field,

Recalling its resolution 40/32 of 29 November 1985 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1986/10, 1986/11 and 1986/12 of 21 May 1986,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention and criminal justice; 3/
2. Urges Member States and the Secretary-General to make every effort to translate into action, as appropriate, the respective recommendations, policies and conclusions stemming from the Milan Plan of Action and other relevant resolutions and recommendations adopted unanimously by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders 2/ and to ensure that they are adequately followed up;
3. Reaffirms the importance of the United Nations Congresses on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and of adequate and timely preparations for such congresses by the Secretary-General and by Member States at national, regional and interregional levels;

2/ See Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1).

3/ A/41/618.

4. Requests the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1987 to examine in depth the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice, taking into account the results of the review undertaken by the Secretary-General; 4/

5. Invites Member States and the Secretary-General to ensure timely preparations for the Eighth Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;

6. Invites Member States and the Secretary-General, in the performance of his duties, in implementing the results of the Seventh Congress, to accord priority attention to the forms of crime identified in the Milan Plan of Action;

7. Requests the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Technical Co-operation and Development to maintain effective support to the United Nations regional crime prevention institutes, and in this regard takes note with satisfaction of the measures to establish an African regional institute for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, and requests all those concerned to co-operate fully to realize this project as soon as possible;

8. Invites Member States to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence to facilitate appropriate technical co-operation and exchange of information and experience in the field of crime prevention and control;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session, on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. Decides to consider that part of the report of the Economic and Social Council concerning its examination of the review, under the item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice", at its forty-second session.

4/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1986, Supplement No. 5 (E/1986/5), chap. IV.