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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN COMBATNG TRANSNATIONAL CRIME: SMUGGLING OF ILLEGAL MIGRANTS

Measures to combat the smuggling of illegal migrants

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report brings to the attention of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice additional information received from Governments regarding measures and initiatives taken or envisaged to combat the smuggling of illegal migrants and relevant action taken within the United Nations system. It is the fourth in a series of reports on the subject prepared in pursuance of relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

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INTRODUCTION

- l. In the present report, the Secretary-General brings to the attention of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice additional and/or new information received from Governments regarding measures and initiatives taken or envisaged to combat the smuggling of illegal migrants. The attention of the Commission is drawn to the previous reports of the Secretary-General on the subject submitted to the General Assembly (A/49/350 and Add.1) and to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/CN.15/1995/3 and E/CN.15/1996/4 and Add.1).
- 2. The present report has been prepared in pursuance of the requests for the provision by States of information on the measures taken to combat the smuggling of illegal migrants and for the continued review of that information by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice contained in General Assembly resolutions 48/102 of 20 December 1993 and 51/62 of 12 December 1996 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1994/14 of 25 July 1994 and 1995/10 of 24 July 1995.

I. ACTION TAKEN WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

- 3. In its resolution 51/62, entitled "Measures for prevention of the smuggling of aliens", the General Assembly requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to consider giving attention to the question of the smuggling of aliens at its sixth session in order to encourage international cooperation to address the problem within the framework of its mandate, and requested that the text of the resolution be transmitted to all Member States and to relevant specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations. In pursuance of that request, the Secretary-General transmitted the text of the resolution by means of a note verbale dated 27 January 1997.
- 4. Of special relevance in terms of recent legislative action is the United Nations Declaration on Crime and Public Security, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 51/60. Articles 1 and 7 (d) of the Declaration specifically refer to organized trafficking in persons and to organized criminal smuggling of persons across national borders, respectively.
- 5. At its fifth session, in discussions on transnational organized crime in the context of its review of priority themes, the Commission outlined some of the manifestations of and trends in the smuggling of illegal migrants observed in different parts of the world. The Commission noted that an increasing number of States were being used as transit points for such activity and that the time it took for smuggled migrants to move on from the transit points was becoming longer. In some countries of destination, violence against migrants, trafficking of women and violence against trafficked women had become serious problems.¹

- 6. Issues related to the smuggling of illegal migrants are being dealt with by various policy-making bodies and programmes within the United Nations system, from different programme perspectives, including human rights, the advancement of women, children's rights, refugees and migration and development.
- 7. The attention of the Commission is drawn, in particular, to recent action taken on violence against women migrant workers and on trafficking in women and girls, in General Assembly resolutions 51/65 and 51/66 of 12 December 1996, respectively. In its resolution 51/65, the Assembly requested all relevant bodies and programmes of the United Nations system, when addressing the issue of violence against women, to give particular attention to the issue of violence perpetrated against women migrant workers, and to provide their views and comments to the Secretary-General for inclusion in his report to it at its fifty-second session. In its resolution 51/66, the Assembly welcomed the consideration given to the problems of trafficking in women and girls by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and invited the Commission to continue to consider appropriate measures to address the issue.²
- 8. The attention of the Commission is also drawn to General Assembly resolution 51/69 of 12 December 1996 on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration³ and Platform for Action,⁴ in which the Assembly invited once again all functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, within their mandates, to take due account of the Platform for Action and to ensure the integration of gender aspects in their respective work.⁵ In that context, it may be recalled that the Platform for Action, in its areas of priority concern, focuses on violence against women (strategic objectives D.1-3) and discrimination against the girl child (strategic objective L.1-9), both of which groups of objectives encompass issues that concern violence against, abuse and exploitation of migrant females, female migrant workers and trafficking in females.
- 9. Acts of trafficking in women and children and of violence against women migrant workers fall within the framework and perspective of crime prevention and criminal justice and within the scope and definition of violence against women and the measures being proposed by the Secretary-General to eliminate it on that basis. The relevant report of the Secretary-General, containing proposed revised measures, strategies and activities in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice for the elimination of violence against women, is before the Commission (E/CN.15/1997/11).
- 10. Of particular relevance in the human rights field are Commission on Human Rights resolution 1996/18 of 11 April 1996 and Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities resolutions 1996/10 of 23 August 1996, entitled "Migrant workers", and 1996/12 also of 23 August 1996, entitled "Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery", the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, and the draft programme of action on the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others developed by the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery (see E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/28/Add.1). (See also General Assembly resolution 51/85 of 12 December 1996 on the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.)
- 11. At its fifty-second session, the General Assembly will consider a report of the Secretary-General, to be submitted pursuant to its resolution 50/123 of 20 December 1995, that will contain concrete proposals on ways and means to address the issue of international migration and development, including aspects related to objectives and modalities for the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development. Relevant organizations and programmes of the United Nations system were called upon to address the issue and to submit their views to the Secretary-General. (See also Assembly resolution 49/127 of 19 December 1994 on international migration and development.) At its organizational session for 1997, the Economic and Social Council will consider international migration and development as a theme of its agenda for 1997. The attention of the Commission is drawn to other relevant developments and initiatives on matters of international migration and development, in

particular the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held at Istanbul from 3 to 14 June 1996, which, *inter alia*, addressed shelter-related questions concerning migrants.⁶

12. Attention is drawn to the International Conference on Migration and Crime: Global Problems and Responses, organized at Courmayeur, Italy, from 4 to 6 October 1996 by the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council in cooperation with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division. That Conference, *inter alia*, focused on the curtailment of the so-called "double victimization" of migrants and refugees. During the discussion, it was noted that special programmes had to be implemented in countries of origin and in host countries that would involve all relevant agencies, personnel and services (criminal justice, victim, immigration, consular, diplomatic) and lead to better communication, information, training and awareness-raising processes. Special efforts had to be made, through education and the media, to sensitize the public, extend better protection and other measures and reduce the violence, abuse and exploitation related to trafficking in persons, migration and refugee situations and the criminogenic problems engendered by those practices.

II. GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES CONCERNING CRIMINAL LAW AND OTHER ACTION BY THE CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

13. In response to the request from the Secretary-General, 19 States provided new or additional information on criminal law and other action by the crime prevention and criminal justice system taken or envisaged to combat the smuggling of illegal migrants: Belarus, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, India, Italy, Lebanon, Mexico, Morocco, Niger, Saint Lucia, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey and United States of America. This brings to 74 the total number of replies received from Governments and included in the series of reports.

Belarus

- 14. The entry and exit of migrants, refugees, foreign nationals and stateless persons into and from Belarus are governed by the Belarus Legal Status of Foreign Nationals or Stateless Persons in the Republic of Belarus Act of 1993; the Belarus Refugees Act of 1995; the Citizenship of the Republic of Belarus Act of 1991; and the Presidential Decree of 1994. There are also legal provisions on combating illegal migration in the Basic Law of the Republic on the National Boundaries of the Republic, Border Control Forces of the Republic and on Operational and Investigative Activities.
- 15. The borders in the west and south of Belarus are actively used for illegal transit of migrants to western countries. There are also large-scale attempted illegal crossings of the eastern border by migrants, mainly from southeast Asia and Africa. From 1994 to the present, over 3,000 illegal migrants from 54 countries were arrested at the border of Belarus. A special service has been set up within the Border Control Forces to combat organized crime on the border, including the smuggling of illegal migrants.
- 16. From 1994 to the present, that service has successfully prevented attempts to cross the border illegally by over 1,000 would-be offenders from Asia and Africa. The organization of illegal entry of so-called "live goods" has intensified and the criminal organizations that manage the process are taking varied and extremely clever steps to increase secrecy and to ensure the safety of their operations in transporting groups of migrants across borders. Their operations have become a highly organized, coordinated and dangerous criminal activity. It has been reliably established that these criminal organizations take pains to gather the information necessary for their activities and to monitor all changes in political conditions, national legislation and the organization and working methods of law enforcement agencies and national border guards. The measures taken by the Government of Belarus to prevent illegal border crossings have prompted criminal syndicates to find safer means and opportunities for moving persons to the West. In general, this has put an end to mass illegal migration, although some activity has transferred to "green" borders. Most often, organizers of the smuggling operations prepare counterfeit documents using forged blank passports of countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and other countries.

Colombia

17. Colombia reported on the creation of a committee to study the situation regarding trafficking in and exploitation of women and children.

Croatia

18. In Croatia, penal law defines the illegal crossing of the state border as a criminal act. Sanctions apply to any individual who deals in illegal trafficking or who facilitates an illegal crossing of the border. The numbers of violations of criminal law and of individuals sentenced for those violations have increased significantly over the last three years.

Cyprus

19. Cyprus reported that illegal immigration was low in the part of the Republic under its control. The number of illegal immigrants arriving in Cyprus during recent years usually ranged from 20 to 50 a year. The number increased substantially in 1996, however, and there was evidence that most such persons arrived in the country by boat from neighbouring countries, in particular, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic, after paying some \$500 to \$1,000, each to the owner of the vessel of passage. Usually violators are arrested within days of their arrival and brought to justice under the Aliens and Immigration Law. If convicted, transgressors are sentenced to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to a fine not exceeding 1,000 pounds or to both. Cyprus considers its Aliens and Immigration Law, although enacted some time ago, to be in conformity with the law in effect internationally and to be satisfactory in terms of national needs for the time being.

Czech Republic

- 20. The Czech Republic reported measures to control its border points more strictly in terms of the entry of foreigners. In order to protect borders effectively it is necessary for countries to enter into bilateral and mulitlateral agreements on transborder police cooperation to deal with organized or unorganized attempts at illegal migration; set up an information support system for flexible cooperation between internal and external security forces; train police officers and embassy staff regarding counterfeit documents; and pay close attention to security aspects of the issuance of visas. Cooperation between the consular sections of Czech embassies abroad and the Directorate of Foreigners and Border Police has been developing successfully.
- 21. The Czech Republic further reported that, as States signatories to the Schengen Agreement do not perform checks on their international borders, the activity of the Czech immigration services has focused on inland checks and on cooperation between liaison officers who work directly with the immigration services of partner States. Liaison officers also deal with issues related to cross-border crime. All the parties concerned assess this form of cooperation very positively. A new draft amendment to the law on residence of foreigners, approved by the Government and now before Parliament, would set strict conditions for the residence of foreigners in the Republic.

Estonia

- 22. Estonia reported that its cases of illegal immigration had proved the importance of legal assistance treaties between countries. In 1994, a protocol on trilateral cooperation was concluded between the border guards of Estonia, Finland and the Russian Federation concerning the guarding of borders on the Gulf of Finland and surrounding harbours. Within that framework, a number of activities are being carried out, including monthly meetings and exchange of information. Aid was received from the Estonian Bureau of the International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO/Interpol).
- 23. A Commission on Illegal Immigration has been established to develop legislation to regulate problems of illegal migration and refugees. In 1995 and 1996, the border guard administration enhanced its action against illegal migration by developing cooperation among relevant agencies and furnishing border points with technology and increased information, which has lead to a more effective control of the border. Seminars and training courses were arranged and experience was exchanged among specialists.

Finland

- 24. Finland reported that arrangement of illegal entry was punishable under the Aliens Act by a fine or imprisonment of up to two years. The Act covers bringing or attempting to bring an alien into the country in the known absence of a passport, visa or residence permit required for entry, arranging or providing transport for the alien or supplying another person with a false or counterfeit passport, visa or residence permit for use in conjunction with entry.
- 25. The smuggling of illegal migrants to or through Finland, although on a smaller scale than that experienced by other European countries, was reported to be increasing slightly. Illegal migration was seen as connected with international organized crime, for example, drug trafficking and prostitution. In recent years, the Government has paid particular attention to combating such activities and has aimed at improving international cooperation, including through information exchange, and at upgrading the preparedness of police and border guards by developing their administration, equipment and training. The Government participated in a number of events on the matter within the purview of the European Union (EU), the Budapest Group and the European police force (EUROPOL).
- 26. Finland also made reference to a 1995 report on the smuggling of illegal migrants in the Baltic Sea area prepared by the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations, which emphasizes that the increase in smuggling cannot be combated with measures taken by individual States and that practical cooperation is needed in border areas between the police, customs and immigration authorities. Bilateral and multilateral agreements are essential, as they make direct contacts possible between lower levels of authority and under certain conditions may also give them competence to act on the territory of another State. *Iceland*
- 27. Iceland reported having had no particular problem as regards smuggling of illegal migrants that required specific legislative or other measures from the authorities in recent years, during which time there had been no criminal cases brought before the courts. Relevant legislation consists of acts related to the supervision of foreign nationals enacted in 1965. Violations are punishable by fines, custody or imprisonment of up to six months. Heavier penalties may be applied under other statutes for acquiring a passport or another travel document in an unlawful manner by providing false information or intentionally concealing facts or contributing to incorrect information on official documents; acquiring more than one passport or travel document for an unlawful purpose; altering or removing parts of official travel documents for an unlawful purpose; entering or exiting the country without reporting to passport control authorities; or taking part in the concealment of a foreign national. A person contributing to a foreign national's illegal entry into the country, in addition to being liable to punishment, is obliged to pay the expenses incurred by the State resulting from illegal residence in Iceland and repatriation.

28. India provided detailed information about its legal enactments and statutory provisions in combating the smuggling of illegal migrants. Entry of migrants into India is regulated by passport and visa. The basic law that regulates the entry of foreigners is the Foreigners Act of 1946. The Foreigners Order of 1958 regulates border entries and the Order of 1971 makes it mandatory to report the arrival or presence of any foreigners in one's household. Recent initiatives have been made to seal the borders to illegal migration flow, especially as regards the detection of forged documents and entries in coastal areas. A very close watch by government agencies was under way to uncover operations concerning migration of women and children under the pretext of marriage.

Italy

- 29. The law in Italy imposes a term of imprisonment ranging from one to three years and a fine of up to 30 million lire. A term of imprisonment ranging from 4 to 12 years and a fine of from Lit 30 to 100 million are prescribed when the activity is carried out for profit by three or more individuals in association or when it relates to the entry of five or more persons. Where the activity aims at recruiting persons for purposes of prostitution or at favouring the entry of children to take on exploitable illegal activity, violations are punishable by a term of imprisonment ranging from 5 to 15 years and a fine of from Lit 50 to 200 million. Any vehicles used in the illegal activity are forfeited.
- 30. Italy may issue a temporary permit to non-EU citizens who may be under serious threat owing to statements made during criminal proceedings for crimes in relation to procurement. This aims at enhancing cooperation among investigatory bodies concerned with organized crime. Further sanctions exist for activities aimed at the exploitation of clandestine workers: a term of imprisonment of from two to six years and a fine of from Lit 10 to 50 million for each worker hired. Under the Italian legal system, aliens illegally entering the territory of the State cannot be prosecuted. Only administrative measures may be taken to identify and then expel the individual from the territory.

Lebanon

31. Lebanon reported that all those entering the country illegally were subject to a term of imprisonment ranging from one month to three years, followed by deportation.

Mexico

32. Mexico reported that a proposal had been made to amend the General Population Act through the incorporation of tougher criminal legislation against the smuggling of illegal migrants. The proposal was currently before the legislature for discussion and approval and could possibly be substantially modified. At present, one of the articles of the Act provides for the penalty of imprisonment for alien smuggling, which it classifies as a serious offence, as does the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure.

Morocco

33. Morocco provided information on agreements entered into that enhance its bilateral cooperation on the matter. An agreement on the movement of persons, taking the form of an exchange of letters between the Governments of Morocco and France signed in 1983, provides that the Moroccan authorities will ensure that aircraft or ships take on board for transport to France only passengers in possession of documents specified in the agreement as legal. The accession of Morocco in 1959 to the international convention relating to illegal passage established closer cooperation on clandestine migration and lead to the adoption, by means of bilateral agreements, of appropriate measures for the readmission of its nationals in breach of regulations. Morocco concluded an agreement with Spain in 1992 relating to the movement of persons in transit and the readmittance of foreigners effecting illegal entry into the country. In pursuance of that agreement, both countries have stationed border guards along their coasts. In October 1996 Morocco and Spain decided to establish joint committees whose responsibilities would include the identification of illegal migrants and consideration of ways of improving surveillance of them. Dialogue is under way

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in the framework of the association agreement between Morocco and EU on problems relating to clandestine emigration and conditions for the return of persons in breach of regulations.

Niger

34. The Niger submitted the text of a 1981 decree regulating the conditions for the entry into and residence in the Niger of aliens. It includes provisions governing the movement of aliens, refusal of entry and expulsion. The 1980 ordinance relating to the entry into and residence in the Niger of aliens, *inter alia*, specifies the imposition of penalties and conditions of expulsion from the country.

Saint Lucia

35. Saint Lucia reported that no criminal law or other initiatives had been taken to combat alien smuggling.

Spain

36. Spain reported that its specialized police training was proceeding well. A 1996 report of the State Attorney's Office on the work of the Department of Public Prosecution during 1995 stated that the existence and the effective and specialized functioning of the immigration services within the prosecution authority were promoting and facilitating liaison with government agencies, especially with the Immigration Operations Unit of the National Police Force. A new penal code, adopted by constitutional law in 1995, concerned offences against workers' rights and devoted two of its articles to the prevention of the illegal immigration of workers. One of its articles penalizes any individual engaging in the smuggling of illegal workers. The other specifically penalizes the aiding or abetting, by any means, of clandestine immigration of workers into Spain. It also penalizes the use of bogus employment offers or arrangements or the like to secure or facilitate the emigration of any person to another country, the statutory definition of such acts being contained in the former penal code of 1973.

Tunisia

37. Tunisia, while not facing a problem as regards smuggling of illegal migrants, in 1968 passed specific legislation on the status of foreigners in Tunisia that contains penalties against any person who knowingly, directly or indirectly, assists or attempts to assist the illegal entry to, exit from, transit through or residence of a foreigner in Tunisia.

Turkey

38. Turkey provided information on legislation to prevent the organized smuggling of illegal foreign migrants under the Employment Act Law and the Penal Code. Those entering the country illegally were liable to a period of imprisonment of one to six months. The licences of companies involved in the illegal transport of passengers or merchandise could be rescinded.

United States of America

- 39. The United States of America reported that its four-part strategy to control illegal immigration called for regaining border control; protecting American workers and removing the "job magnet" through work-site enforcement; removing criminal and other deportable aliens; and securing the resources necessary to support the strategy. Toward those ends, legislative changes were under way to improve government enforcement capabilities. The law governing the illegal smuggling of persons, set out in the Immigration and Nationality Act, under "Bringing in and harbouring certain aliens", provides for criminal penalties, imprisonment and/or fines for the crimes of bringing or attempting to bring aliens into the country at other than a port of entry, transporting or harbouring undocumented aliens and encouraging or inducing aliens to come to the country in violation of the law. It allows for fining of a carrier for the knowing transportation of improperly documented aliens, by vessel, vehicle or aircraft, and for seizure and forfeiture.
- 40. Under the 1996 Anti-terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act, the Attorney-General of the United States expanded the authority to expedite the exclusion and deportation of aliens for document fraud or lack of proper documents. However, the Government is seeking legislative changes that would greatly improve its ability to repatriate aliens brought in on board smuggling vessels when the Attorney-General determines that the number or circumstances of aliens en route to or arriving in the country present an "extraordinary migration situation". Pending immigration bills would legislate new offences of alien smuggling punishable by imprisonment for more than one year and penalties would be increased for alien-smuggling offences, up to 10 years for a first or second offence and up to 15 years for subsequent offences. Substantial funds will provide for new positions across relevant agencies to increase the capacity to detain and remove criminal and other "deportable aliens" from the United States and to control the borders more effectively.

III. ACTION REQUIRED BY THE COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- 41. From 1994 until the present, a series of reports on the illegal smuggling of migrants has been submitted by the Secretary-General, containing information from 74 States and five organizations of the United Nations system (see also A/49/350 and Add.1, E/CN.15/1995/3 and E/CN.15/1996/4 and Add.1).
- 42. The Commission may now be in a position to consider whether the information acquired from States and presented thus far is sufficient as a basis for determining the course of future international action on the matter. That information concerns criminal law and other measures taken and/or envisaged by Governments and their relevant agencies to combat the illegal smuggling of aliens.
- 43. Additional information might be sought in order to discern patterns of transborder smuggling of migrants and the various criminogenic factors involved. In that way, the Commission would be apprised not only of the measures taken or envisaged by States to combat the problem, but also of the actual forms and dimensions of the problem.
- 44. On the basis of both kinds of information, the Commission might then consider devising an effective approach that criminal justice systems might adopt to combat the illegal smuggling of migrants, for example, taking more compatible and better harmonized countermeasures, in terms of policy and in practical operations, at the national, regional and international levels. Such an approach should be based on universally acceptable policy perspectives, clearly defined strategies and the development of practical technical measures aimed at upgrading the capacity of criminal justice systems to combat this particular form of criminality, bearing in mind the nature and extent of trafficking operations. The safeguarding of national sovereignty and security, as well as border integrity, would be central to any such approach, as would considerations of upholding internationally accepted human rights standards and norms.

45. In determining future measures that might be taken to combat trafficking in and smuggling of migrants from the perspective of crime prevention and criminal justice, the Commission may also wish to consider how best to integrate its action, as far as possible, with the activities of other concerned bodies and programmes, in particular those within the United Nations system.⁸

Notes

¹See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1996, Supplement No. 30 (E/1996/30 and Corr.1-3), chap. II, para. 23.

²See the report of the Secretary-General on traffic in women and girls (A/51/309), in which, *inter alia*, in paragraphs 43 to 45, he reports on approaches and measures of the Commission to address trafficking; and on violence against women migrant workers (A/51/325), in which, *inter alia*, in paragraphs 12 to 15, he reports on action taken by organizations of the United Nation system on the situation of women migrant workers; and the report of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council on violence against women migrant workers (E/1996/71).

³A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

⁴Ibid., annex II.

⁵See the report of the Secretary-General on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women (A/51/277, paras. 5-9).

⁶See the Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June1996 (A/CONF.165/14).

⁷Christopher J. Ulrich, *Alien-smuggling and uncontrolled migration in northern Europe and the Baltic region* (ISSN 1236-8245), HEUNI paper No. 7.

⁸These entities are the following: (a) United Nations departments and programmes: the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development and its Division for the Advancement of Women, and the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme; and (b) functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council: the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the Commission on the Status of Women.